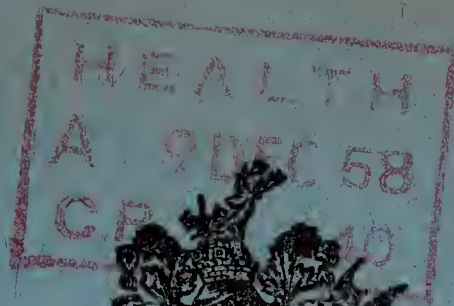


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THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

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BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1957

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ANNUAL REPORT

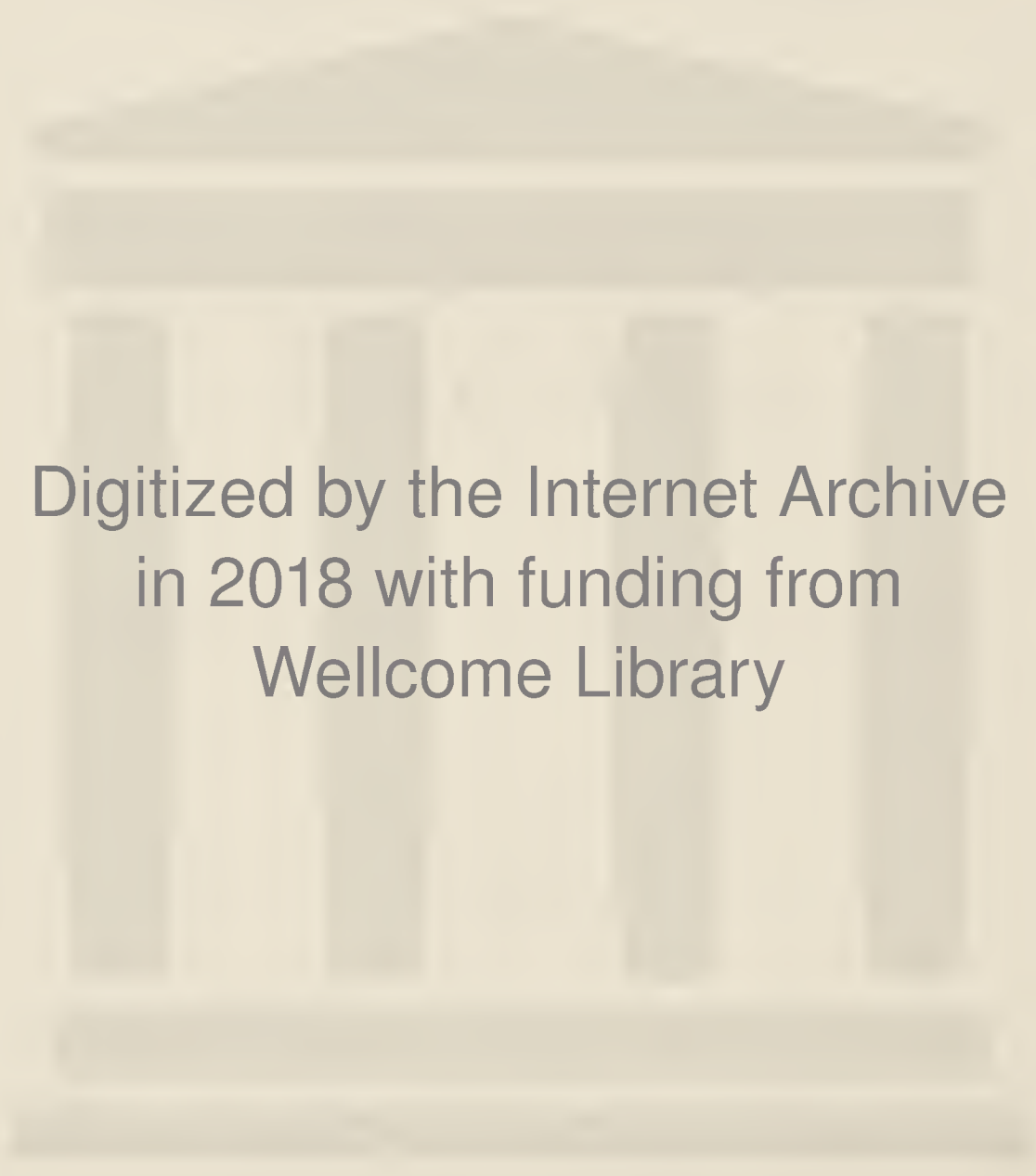
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Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR
1957

JAMES R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.
Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department
Council House
Sutton Coldfield



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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

By J. R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Royal Town of
Sutton Coldfield.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In preparing this Annual Report it occurred to me that this was the tenth Annual Report which it has been my pleasure to present to you and it seemed appropriate to take this opportunity of reviewing the work of the last ten years and note the very great changes which have occurred in the Public Health Services generally and in the gradual development in size and character of this Town.

Even in the short span of ten years (1947-1957) the population has increased by almost one quarter from 45,280 to a local estimated figure in 1957 of about 60,000. This increase has been caused by the influx of young, newly-married people to occupy the many new houses erected, particularly by private enterprise, in the Borough in the last few years. The result is that the number of births per year has increased from 756 in 1946 (which includes the post-war bulge) dropping to 639 in 1950 and then rising steadily to 1,008 in 1957. From the trend in house-building at the moment, the figure is likely to rise much higher and I would estimate that next year this figure will be in the region of 1,200. The actual figure for the birth rate was high, therefore, in 1947 at 18.93 dropping slightly to 17.93 in 1957, the third highest in the last thirty years. The death rate has remained more or less steady, with the death rate of 1957 as the lowest since 1912 at 8.85.

In 1955 I feel a landmark was reached in the growth of the town when the population was officially reported by the Registrar General as being 50,630 as it reached the half century.

There has been little change in the incidence of infectious disease because of the effects of the various vaccination and immunization schemes. I am glad to say there were no cases of Diphtheria during the last ten years and this can be attributed to the success of Diphtheria immunizations. This impresses me when I think of the hundreds of cases of Diphtheria I saw in hospital immediately pre-war. It is interesting to note that about 71% of the total child population is immunized against Diphtheria but this is still too low and we are trying to increase this figure. Although

more children are being dealt with, nevertheless, the proportion immunized remains almost constant. For instance, there were 261 more children immunized against Diphtheria in 1956 than in 1955, yet with the increase in population there was no significant change in the percentage of child population immunized.

Sutton Coldfield was very progressive in offering Whooping Cough Vaccination to children before the National Health Service, when the Borough had to pay for the material and it was not a national scheme. The result is that now we have a larger number of children immunized. In 1948, we immunized 408 giving 15% immunized. In 1957, we immunized 916 cases bringing the percentage to 44%.

In regard to Poliomyelitis, in 1947 we had 32 cases with three deaths and then in 1948 the number of cases dropped to two. Then in 1950 we had a serious outbreak with 40 cases—of these 23 were paralytic and 17 were non-paralytic, with three deaths. The character of the disease has changed, in so far that it now occurs mainly in older children, adolescents and in adults, hardly, therefore, qualifying for the name of Infantile Paralysis. With the introduction in 1956 of the Poliomyelitis Vaccination Scheme and the fact that we have already vaccinated considerable numbers, there are great hopes that this disease will be ultimately eliminated in the same way as Diphtheria. To the end of 1957, we have immunized 2,626.

In the last ten years, there have been considerable changes in the position of Tuberculosis. In 1948, there were 143 cases on the register and this has steadily climbed until in 1957 there were 320. There appears to have been a great increase in the number of cases of Tuberculosis but the number of new cases notified in the area has remained more or less constant, for example, 24 in 1947 and 28 in 1957. The cause of the rise has been the transfer of patients suffering from Tuberculosis from the other districts and many of these cases are of a very early type of disease which it is now customary to notify. Many of the cases now notified would probably have just been kept under observation in the past and this factor too, tends to raise the figure. It is now, of course, a simple matter to get hospital treatment for this disease and with the advent of new forms of treatment, there is no doubt that there is every chance that this disease can be mastered. The weakness, however, lies in the undetected cases which are, from time to time, found by mass radiography and other means. We do our utmost to trace contacts and encourage them to be examined so that we can eliminate the disease completely, but it lies in the hands of the General Practitioners, by early diagnosis, to do most.

The Mass Radiography Unit paid a visit to this Town in 1954 and

was available to the public and school children. Just over 3,000 people were x-rayed, of these 61 were recalled for a large x-ray. No cases of active Tuberculosis were discovered although 9 cases of non-tuberculous disease were found. The Medical Director of the Unit stated that these figures reflected much credit upon the healthiness of the district and upon the astuteness of the local practitioners. I hope that the next visit of the Mass Radiography Unit will elicit a larger response by the general public.

Since 1951, there has, of course, been B.C.G. Vaccinations available. In 1954, only 17 children were vaccinated against Tuberculosis and to-day, all contacts and children of tuberculous parents are automatically offered this facility.

One of the greatest changes that has come over the Town in the last ten years is, of course, in the number and disposition of housing. In 1946, there were 13,443 inhabited houses. In 1948, the Tower Road Estate was nearly completed, the construction of Falcon Lodge had started and 100 contemporary bungalows were occupied. By 1957, 19,025 houses were inhabited and this figure is now increasing very rapidly. In 1950, the Town Council were amongst the first to make a Clearance Order at Hunter's Place and Harris Buildings, comprising 17 houses. This was the start of the Corporation Slum Clearance Scheme which has progressed steadily over the ten years. Up till 1949, the Corporation had demolished 104 houses, but under the Housing Rents and Repairs Act, 1954, a new impetus was given to slum clearance and a survey of sub-standard properties was carried out in Sutton Coldfield. The result of the survey showed that there were 174 houses unfit and not capable of being made fit, 232 unfit and only capable of being made fit by major repair, and 15 unfit but capable of repair. In all, 684 houses which had been considered in doubtful condition were inspected. Following this, a five years' programme of demolition and clearance was embarked upon and we are now well advanced in this. The Housing Committee and the Council have been very generous with allocations of housing for those displaced by slum clearance and it is to their credit that they have endeavoured to give old people new houses near to the site of their former dwelling. This is particularly important in the case of the elderly who hate to be uprooted from their friends, churches, clubs and shops.

In 1952, a complete new filing system was put in for the housing records and this, over the last five years, has paid dividends over and over again. We have continued to build up this system and we are indeed happy to feel that we have a sound record of housing and housing defects in the Borough.

In the same year, I drew attention to the possible problem of

houses-let-in-lodgings in the Borough. At the time, it was noted that there was a slight but steady increase in the number of houses occupied by several families without the provision of proper amenities. Discussions were held with regard to the provision of bye-laws to rectify this situation but nothing came of them. This year, the matter is again under review and I feel that at least some action will be taken to prescribe a standard for these premises and endeavours will be made to provide these units of accommodation with proper washing, cooking and lavatory facilities. With the development of private housing schemes in the Borough, the centre of the Borough is shifting steadily northwards and it would appear that the Four Oaks and Hill areas of Sutton Coldfield will become the most densely populated areas of the Town in the foreseeable future. Furthermore, at the present rate of building, very soon there will be little land available in Sutton Coldfield for further expansion.

The Maternity and Child Welfare work in Sutton Coldfield has undergone tremendous changes in the period under review. Much of the change has been due to the growth in child population and also the fact that Maternity and Child Welfare Services were taken over by the County Council in 1948. Under the National Health Service Act, these Services were extended. In 1946, there was only one child welfare clinic in the Town at Holland Street. Clinics were held in Church Halls in Boldmere and at Four Oaks, with a temporary hutted clinic at Minworth. In 1948, a new clinic was built by the Borough Council in Bannersgate and has since proved very useful indeed. In 1949, Walmley Clinic was opened, having been designed and built jointly, as a library and clinic, by the Borough Council. The County Council opened two new clinics at Mere Green and Boldmere in 1953 and 1955 respectively and a very fine clinic at Falcon Lodge was opened in 1957 so that in the last ten years six new clinics have been opened in Sutton Coldfield. The School Clinic has also been reconstructed internally. There were over 5,000 attendances at the Clinics in 1948, whereas in 1957, there were twelve and a half thousand. New dental surgeries have also been provided and Sutton Coldfield can be justly proud of the Dental facilities for the School Children. Fortunately, we have been able to obtain the Staff for these new clinics and this is quite exceptional at the present time. These Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics have enabled us to give the services to the mothers and children locally and it has also been possible to have remedial and post-natal exercise clinics, mothercraft clinics, health lectures and talks convenient to mothers' times. I am certain it can be said that clinic facilities have improved vastly over the last ten years and must, with the growth of the Town, continue to expand.

One of the difficulties arising from this rapid growth of the

Town is the quick provision of clinics and the difficulty in siting them in the correct places, in view of the continual changing of the centres of population. Apart from this, it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain land, and this has been particularly difficult in the Hill and Four Oaks areas.

Another matter which has changed greatly is the maternity work in the town. In the year 1946, 172 women were confined in the maternity homes in the Borough, 81 at Oakhurst and 152 outside the Borough in homes and hospitals, this being 52% of all confinements. The remainder were confined at home. The proportion of institutional confinements has steadily climbed. In 1952, it was 60% and in 1957 it was 73%. The maternity accommodation in the Town, which consists of 14 beds in Oakhurst for mothers with unsuitable home conditions for confinement, is totally inadequate. It is hoped that the Regional Hospital Board will provide a proper maternity unit which can cope with all types of maternity work in the near future. The problem is naturally one which is becoming more acute every day with the large increase in population previously mentioned.

Another development in the Service has been the tremendous change in the Home Help Service. Sutton Coldfield was very progressive in this matter and had for many years the only Home Help Service in the County. It was a small service but at least it was an attempt to help those in difficulties. In 1946, 84 cases were helped. In the main, they were maternity cases where mothers needed help in the home during confinement. No help was given to the Chronic Sick or to old people, and only a few helps were employed at the time. The growth of the service over the last ten years has been very great and at the present time as many as 55 helps are employed. In 1957, 350 cases were helped and 37,726 hours were worked during the year. Of these cases, 103 were maternity cases and 247 were chronic sick and old people. Of these, 139 are long-term cases and have had help for over three months.

The Home Help Service is an expensive one to run. It serves a very useful purpose but must be most carefully controlled otherwise it can get out of hand and be abused by those who do not need to pay for the service. This is a natural tendency consistent with the welfare state.

When I came to Sutton Coldfield in 1946, the first problem that confronted me was the appalling state of the milk supply and the Health Committee were very concerned. Numerous complaints were being received about the cleanliness of the milk supply and in view of this, all the farms were visited and many samples of milk taken. Steps were taken to improve the handling of milk and the

methods used in farms and dairies. These steps resulted in improvements and by 1948 the standard of cleanliness of milk in the Borough had reached a satisfactory level. Furthermore, the schools in the Borough were persuaded to change over to Pasteurised milk. I feel this was a very considerable step in the right direction.

In 1949, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries took over the control for production of milk and the local authority became responsible for the supervision of treatment and distribution of milk only. This is done by the inspection of premises, testing of plant and the frequent sampling of milk in the process of distribution to the customer. The next change which took place was in November 1952 when the Borough became part of the "Specified Area" in which it was obligatory that all milk sold should be either pasteurised, sterilised, tuberculin tested or accredited. The latter only until 1954.

Another factor which has helped in the control of milk in the Borough was the fact that Sutton Coldfield became a Food and Drugs Authority in April 1950 and, therefore, was able to check and further supervise the quality of milk in the Borough.

During and after the war, in view of rationing and the scarcity of food, many local inhabitants kept pigs and in 1946, for instance, 462 pigs were slaughtered in the Borough and inspected by the Health Staff. In 1948, 570 pigs were killed. However, with the ending of rationing and licensing of three slaughter houses, the picture has changed completely and in 1957 only 125 pigs were slaughtered, 555 sheep and 25 calves. The Health Inspectors instead of having to visit so many private houses, are now able to do the meat inspections, in the main, in slaughter houses.

On first coming to Sutton Coldfield I greatly admired the pools in the Park, these being outstanding features of that area. In 1948, the Health and Housing, and Park and Estates Committees considered the question of Windley Pool. It was acknowledged to be a breeding place of insects and flies and was silting up rapidly. It was agreed that the pool should be cleaned out to eliminate this nuisance. From time to time, this has been considered, but owing to the high cost which was in 1948 put in the region of £10,000, nothing could be done. In 1949, the attention of the Committees was drawn to Powell's Pool and Bracebridge. Since then, Powell's Pool has been cleaned out and greatly improved but it would seem that unless something is done in the near future, it is likely that with the continued silting up, Windley Pool will practically disappear and Bracebridge, with its multitude of weeds, will also be greatly encroached upon. These pools and surrounds are a tremendous breeding ground for insects and although we spray

them as much as possible, nevertheless, the only real way to get rid of the insect nuisance is to provide proper drainage to the breeding areas and thus eliminate the nuisance at its source. I would indeed be sorry to see further deterioration and the loss of these pools.

In 1951, a complete report by Birmingham University Zoological Department was made on the insect life in the Park and they recommended that only by drainage and cleaning out of the pools could any real progress be made. The detailed report can be seen in my 1951 Annual Report.

In view of the impending Scouts' Jamboree in August 1957, it was decided that something would have to be done about the biting insects in the Park where 35,000 boys were going to camp for a fortnight, and, therefore, a considerable amount of preparatory spraying was done around the pools and in the vegetation of the Park. In addition, arrangements were made with contractors to supplement the spraying.

With regard to Swimming, great improvements have been made at Keeper's Pool where in 1948 a new break-point chlorination plant was installed and the filtration system improved. This, in itself, made a marked improvement in the condition of the water but the turnover was too slow and this year new pumps have been installed to improve this. Apart from this, a system of limitation in the number of swimmers and times of swimming has helped to give the chlorination plant a chance to bring the condition of the water to a reasonable standard for swimming.

I regret that once again I must mention the incidence of flooding in various parts of the Borough and the danger to health resulting there, from deposits of sewage. It is appreciated that some plans have been made to alleviate this but, nevertheless, the flooding is, if anything, on the increase, due to the rapid building in the Town. The Health Committee, during the year, stated that they viewed this question with concern and requested that the Highways Committee and the Council take immediate action to effect a remedy.

Until 1949, there were large refuse tips at Chester Road, Hill Hook and Lindridge Road, but the completion of the new destructor in the same year sounded their death knell. This was a great relief to the Health Department for they had been a source of nuisance and infestation for many years. With the growth of the Borough, of course, the destructor is now requiring to be enlarged and more labour is needed to endeavour to keep the collection of refuse at a reasonable rate. The Health Committee are keen that the collection should be weekly, but, as yet, this has

not been universally obtained. With new equipment and re-organization, I hope that this will be forthcoming.

Over the last ten years, following on representations by the Health Committee, there has been considerable improvement in the hygienic conditions in the Park. Originally, there were a number of stalls of poor construction from a hygienic point of view, and there were also many caterers who boiled water over an open fire and their cooking and catering methods were, to say the least, primitive. Since then, the Council has adopted a more progressive attitude to this question and properly designed stalls are now standardized and when new premises are built, they meet with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. When it is realized that as many as 90,000 persons may be in the park on a Bank Holiday, it is reasonable to expect that food and drink obtained in the Park should be handled in a proper way.

In 1953, the question of vehicles selling food in the Borough was brought to the notice of the Health Committee but it was agreed then that nothing could be done to alter the position radically and all we could do was to try and supervise the hygiene standard to the best of our ability.

From time to time, this matter has been considered by various Committees and the Food Hygiene Regulations have helped to improve conditions, but once more I would say that until vehicles selling food are compelled to register with the local authority of the area in which they are proposing to sell, then no real improvement will take place. These vehicles fulfil a very important service to householders who, by reasons of distance or owing to physical disabilities, cannot easily shop and it is a pity that some of these vehicles, because of their condition, bring discredit to the others which are kept in a clean condition and give excellent service to the public.

Whilst the Borough Council has always taken a considerable interest in the prevention of atmospheric pollution, the Clean Air Act has given an added stimulus to their interest. During the year, the Borough Council joined with many of the other Councils in Warwickshire to form the Warwickshire Clean Air Council. This organization has been set up in an attempt to co-ordinate the work against atmospheric pollution in the County and although it is early yet to give any definite statement, I feel that this organization will serve a very useful purpose. Arising out of discussions in Council, three Deposit Gauges and three Lead Peroxide Gauges have been set up in different areas of the Town, and two daily smoke filters have been installed, one in the Health Department and one operated by the Boldmere Boys' High School.

Another matter of considerable importance considered by the Health Committee was the question of lung cancer and smoking. This, of course, is a controversial subject but there is no doubt that the medical evidence points to the fact that the incidence of lung cancer is much greater in heavy smokers than in non-smokers. The Health Committee feel that little can be done in the way of persuading adults to give up smoking but consider that the correct approach would be to younger children, at school, in an endeavour to explain the dangers to them.

During 1955, the question of a Crematorium for this and surrounding areas was considered by the Corporation. In Britain in 1937, there were 8,337 cremations, by 1954 the total had risen to 125,521 and has been rising each year. At a Meeting with neighbouring authorities, it was decided to proceed with the building of a Crematorium in Sutton Coldfield and it was not possible to do so owing to restrictions on building, but it is now possible to get on with this work and no doubt in the next year or two, a crematorium will be made available.

In 1950, when Alderman Hothersall was Mayor, the Council called a Meeting of those interested in the work for old people's welfare in the Town and the Sutton Coldfield Old People's Welfare Committee was founded with Alderman Hothersall as Chairman. This organization has flourished and over the last seven years has done a great deal of good work for the Welfare of Old People of the Town in the way of assisting the Meals on Wheels Service, Holidays and Entertainments, Home Visiting and the Provision of outings for disabled people in a coach belonging to the Committee known as "The Old Folks' Special" and in the last few years, by the institution of a Chiropody Scheme which is fulfilling a great need. The Council has continued to take interest in this organization and have given it support, both financially and morally. Its development shows that there is still plenty of room for work by voluntary organisations and voluntary workers who can supplement the work of the statutory bodies. This is so, in spite of the fact that some would suggest that voluntary work is futile and that welfare work should only be done by those who are paid to do it.

A matter of importance was the decision to provide suitable hand rails to the baths in Old People's bungalows. As is well-known, there is considerable danger to old people in getting in and out of baths and considering the fragility of old people's bones, a fall can have disastrous effects and also the fact that being confined to bed, they may develop Hypostatic Pneumonia. Apart from hand rails in bathrooms, there are now many excellent devices available for helping old people in and out of baths and where these can be afforded, I think these can be a very useful investment.

During the last three years, 15 elderly persons have died as a result of falls due to one reason or another. Many elderly women and their daughters take great pride in having their floors highly polished and at the entrance to rooms there is invariably a small mat placed on the highly polished floor. The combination of these mats which skid so easily and the polished floors are the root cause of many of these elderly persons' death. In my opinion, elderly people should endeavour to keep their floors as non-skid as possible even at the expense of having their floors looking dull. I think this matter has not been given sufficient airing because it always surprises me how many old people just do not realise the dangers to which they are exposing themselves. Old people's dwellings and bungalows should be fitted with an absolutely non-skid flooring material.

Whilst on the subject of care of the elderly, during 1957 three elderly persons died as a result of burns from fires and I think it is just as important to have fire guards in rooms where elderly persons are liable to be alone as it is in rooms occupied by babies. Some progressive authorities issue fire guards to old people free of charge or at a very reduced cost.

In 1955, an interesting scheme was developed in Sutton Coldfield for the care of the Chronic Sick. As is well known, there is great difficulty in getting the chronic sick, particularly the aged, admitted to hospital and a scheme was devised whereby the general practitioners reported all cases to the Health Department where they were classified and examined so that those needing admission most urgently would get first priority. This avoided the unsuitable system by which general practitioners each had to press the claims of their patients without being able to see the relative merits of the claims of others. This scheme has worked admirably and those who should have been admitted, were in fact given first priority. This idea has spread to other areas of the County and is still extending. A similar scheme has been worked out for the admission of maternity cases, for social reasons, to Oakhurst, but in view of the shortage of beds previously mentioned, this scheme causes considerable embarrassment to the Department.

Health Education has always played a prominent part in the health work in Sutton Coldfield and in 1948, a large exhibition was held in the Town Hall Annexe, lasting three days at which 33 exhibitors were present. This was extremely well attended and considerable public interest was stimulated. It was visited by all the senior school-children of the Borough. In 1949, a similar exhibition was held in the Public Library in the centre of the Town. In recent years, it has not been possible, owing to pressure of work, to organize such large exhibitions and the main outlet for health education has been through lectures and film shows given to local

societies and groups. These lectures are given by Medical Officers, Nursing Staff and Health Inspectors, and it is felt that in this way, close contact with the local population is maintained. The population is made aware of the facilities of the Health Department and is encouraged to come there with their health and hygiene problems.

During the year under review, it was decided that it would be an advantage to have a film projector which would be suitable for the showing of film strips and also for use with transparencies. It is the intention of the Department to record, in colour, the various items of Public Health interest in the Town and to retain pictures of properties which are being demolished under the Slum Clearance Scheme. In addition, it is felt that pictures of local interest are of more value in the teaching subjects such as Food Hygiene. Gradually a small library of suitable pictures will be provided.

Once again, the work generally of the Health Department has steadily increased and this was considerably augmented by the Boy Scouts' Jubilee Jamboree and Centenary celebrations which were held in Sutton Coldfield. In view of the increase of work, the staffing position of the Health Department was reconsidered and the Council agreed to appoint a pupil Health Inspector and a suitable pupil was obtained in August. In addition, the Council decided to provide Car Allowances to the Public Health Inspectors, thus enabling them to have transport available at all times instead of having to wait to draw vehicles from the Borough Pool of vehicles. This has been of great advantage and has enabled the work of the Inspectors to be considerably speeded up and, in fact, owing to this re-arrangement of transport, it has been found unnecessary in the meantime to appoint an additional Health Inspector provided for in the establishment.

The year 1957 saw the transfer of the Health Department to new premises. The Health Department has for many years been housed in the Council House and the accommodation there, having regard to the number of Staff employed on the Area Health work of the County Council, became totally insufficient. Therefore the Borough Council decided to buy the house known as "The Bracken", a private house looking on to King Edward's Square and modify it for joint use by the Health Department of the Borough Council and also the Area Health Department of the County Council. The transfer was satisfactorily made and the new offices provide excellent accommodation and I am sure that the Staff are much more comfortable and work much more efficiently under the new conditions.

From the standpoint of the Public Health Department the International Jubilee Jamboree was one of the outstanding events

of the year 1957, when Scouts of all ages came from all over the world to England to celebrate the Centenary of the birth of Baden-Powell and the Jubilee of Scouting.

Naturally, when an extra population of over 35,000 from over 80 different countries, is suddenly thrust on a town of population approximately 60,000, for a period of two weeks, much has to be done to safeguard the health of the local inhabitants and also those attending the Jamboree. I was fortunate in being asked almost two years before the Jamboree took place in August 1957, to be Assistant Commissioner for Health, a Member of the Directing Committee and be responsible for all Health and Hygiene matters in connection with the Jamboree. I was also fortunate in having Dr. Ker, Medical Superintendent of Little Bromwich Hospital, as my Deputy.

Immediately on accepting this post, with the kind consent of the Council, it was necessary to consider the many and varied problems. There were the vast difficulties of water supply, sewage disposal, medical, hospital and first aid services, hygiene services and camp cleanliness and many others.

The water supply was anticipated at nearly half a million gallons per day for drinking, washing and other requirements. It was necessary to ensure that this was a wholesome supply. Fortunately, the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company was able to deal with this problem and by laying surface mains and piping, gave a proper and adequate supply of water throughout the life of the Jamboree.

The next problem to be solved was that of sanitation and disposal of sewage. Many were the methods considered and the use of borehole systems, chemical closets trench systems were all discussed with the engineers and discarded because of the sandy nature of the soil and the fact that the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company drew supplies from nearby boreholes which might be contaminated. Ultimately, it was decided to lay sewers to all latrines and urinals and instal automatic flushing systems. This method was adopted and functioned extremely well. Minor breakdowns were caused by plugging of outlets with toilet rolls, in the main due to ignorance of use or breaking of the fittings holding these.

The general standard of cleanliness was high, the Scout sanitary squads under the direction of the sub-camp staff and the Health Inspectorate ensuring this. Ample water and disinfectant was available but by the very design of fittings, cleanliness was assured.

Sutton Park has been well known in the past for the nuisance caused by its biting insects and of recent years, the local authority

has been at some expense to try and reduce this. As already mentioned, much increased spraying was done by the Health Department in 1955 and 1956, and this was enhanced by cutting of bracken and gorse and extra spraying by Disinfestation Ltd. in 1957 prior to the Jamboree. Very marked improvements were made and during the Jamboree very few Scouts or Visitors complained of insect bites.

The first aid and medical care of the Scouts, working parties and visitors to the Jamboree estimated at nearly one million, had to be considered. The Directing Committee decided that it would be best to set up a separate system out with the local medical and hospital systems, so that as far as possible the scouts would be kept within the camp for medical and nursing attention.

This was achieved by setting up medical and first-aid centres in each sub-camp of 5,000 and building a prefabricated and tented hospital of 320 beds with all the necessary facilities.

The Medical Services worked as follows :

The Camp Hospital was a prefabricated and tented structure, the tentage and equipment being obtained from the R.A.F. and was fully equipped with all medical, surgical and nursing requirements. The voluntary staff, medical, nursing and administrative, were drawn from Volunteer Scout sources, Hospitals, British Red Cross Society, St. John Brigade, Women's Voluntary Service, Girl Guides and other organizations of Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire. The help of the Sutton Coldfield Branches of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade was invaluable.

The administration of the nursing staff was in the hands of the Matron of the Sutton Coldfield Hospital, Miss Harrison, and she performed excellent work aided by her deputy, Miss Cant, Matron of Victoria Hospital, Lichfield.

All the catering arrangements and cooking of meals were in the care of the Food Flying Squad under Mrs. Hathaway. In the kitchens, which were provided with all-electric equipment, as many as 450 meals for patients and staff were prepared at one time. The efforts of the catering staff were of the highest order and excellent meals were provided both for patients and staff.

As the Jamboree was officially opening on 1st August, the first volunteer staff arrived in the Hospital on 27th July and four wards were ready to receive patients by 29th July, when nine cases were admitted. As the Scouts began to arrive from all parts of the World, some arrived out-of-sorts and weary and by 30th July, 64 were in Hospital. On the day before the Jamboree opened, 160 beds were already filled. Thus, the Hospital had to get into top

gear very quickly indeed. Most of the cases coming in were of upper respiratory infections. As the numbers increased during the first week of the Jamboree, beds began to get scarce and on 9th August, every bed in the Hospital was full. Extra beds were put in certain wards to cope with the situation.

During the twelve days of the Jamboree, the daily admission and discharge rate was high and at the peak period was approximately 90 per day. This put a very heavy strain on the medical, nursing and clerical Staff and on the Laundry. In all, 1,182 cases were admitted to Hospital. A remarkable fact is that only four cases were admitted to Hospital with Diarrhoea and only five cases were treated in the Casualty Department for this condition. This reflects very favourably on the standard of hygiene in the preparation of food and in the lavatory facilities in the camp. There was one suspected case of Poliomyelitis which was removed from the camp and proved negative.

The bulk of the cases were in Hospital from one to four days, numbers dropping rapidly after the fifth day. Five cases spent the whole Jamboree in Hospital. The main causes of hospitalization were 516 cases of Upper Respiratory Infection, 300 Pharyngitis, 25 Bronchitis, 25 Sepsis, 18 Indigestion, 83 Tonsillitis, 21 Leg, 19 Head and 10 Hand Injuries, with 12 cases of Burns and Scalds.

At one time, there were as many as 47 different nationalities in the Camp Hospital and the doctors and nursing staff had a most interesting time overcoming the problems of language in interpretation of symptoms and requirements.

The X-Ray Department of the Hospital was a most useful asset and enabled immediate check to be made for fractures. 149 cases were x-rayed. The Casualty Department of the Hospital which dealt with those cases which were too severe to be handled in the first-aid centre, dealt with 1,011 cases. A very wide range of injuries, fractures, and sickness were dealt with. The Casualty Department was equipped with a complete operating theatre and had 12 beds in a separate Casualty Ward.

The drugs, dressings and medical requisites in the Hospital and Casualty Department were obtained from the R.A.F., from the camp chemists and all scouts who were reported sick were automatically registered under the National Health Service and obtained treatment and drugs free of charge. The Warwickshire County Council loaned the Scouts' Association two excellent mobile dental clinics and during the Jamboree there were 295 attendances at these dental clinics involving 34 different nationalities.

The ambulance service of the County Council provided transport

for patients both within and outside the Jamboree and transferred them from the camp Hospital when it was felt that the case was too severe to be dealt with and needed special facilities. Such patients were often transferred back after a few days, following treatment in Birmingham, for convalescence in the camp. In all, 234 patients were taken to and from Birmingham. Inter-camp transport of cases was carried out by Scout ambulances and 360 cases were thus transported inside the camp.

The number of staff required to run the Hospital was considerable, because it was not possible for all the voluntary staff to live in and certain volunteer staff could only work a limited number of hours per day. On the opening of the Jamboree, 93 staff lived in and from the third to the 10th of August, there were 111 staff living in the Hospital. Voluntary Staff came daily from the British Red Cross, the Girl Guides and from other hospitals in Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

The General Medical Services were run in the eight medical centres. The local general practitioners were arranged in teams and with the permission of the Warwickshire Executive Council held consultation clinics morning and evening. The total number of doctors involved were : local doctors, 30 ; local doctors acting as deputies, 4 ; scout doctors acting as deputies and working in the hospital, 8. The total number of patients seen by doctors in the camp centres were 3,307 and the number of prescriptions was 1,862. In all, patients of 59 different nationalities were involved. The first-aid arrangements for the scouts were centred in the sub-camp medical centres and scouts experienced in first-aid manned these centres. In all, there were 7,092 attendances at the first-aid posts.

The first-aid arrangements for the public and arena shows were made through the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Birmingham County. The Birmingham Regional Hospital Board loaned a First-Aid Mobile Unit. Four sitting cars were utilized. The number of cases treated by the Brigade was 1,036, and 421 patients were transported by the Brigade ambulances and sitting cars. The Brigade did an excellent job of work and their transport covered 2,494 miles.

The Sutton Coldfield Health Department prepared an exhibition on the local health work and it is estimated that the attendances at this exhibition were in the region of 50,000. Very large supplies of leaflets were distributed and much interest shown in the models of local water supply prepared by the South Staffordshire Waterworks and the models of local sewage disposal loaned by the Tame and Rea Drainage Board. Much credit is reflected on the local Hospital Management Committee under the chairmanship of Mr.

Salt and the administration under Mr. Wilkins, the Hospital Secretary, for the help given in the work of the hospital and casualty departments. The Health Department Staff themselves worked extremely hard in organising the health services of the Jamboree in addition to their normal work. The organisation of the Health Services was a most interesting task and, whilst it was a heavy one, it gave much satisfaction to those concerned.

On the opening day of the Jamboree H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester paid a visit to the Hospital and medical services.

On 3rd August, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II accompanied by H.R.H. Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, toured the wards, kitchens, operating theatre and the Casualty Department of the Hospital and this visit gave much pleasure and encouragement to the young patients. This visit was, to the patients and staff of the Hospital, the highlight of the Jamboree.

Many friends were made and much pleasure derived from the feeling that something had been done in the bringing together of such a large number of young people from so many countries.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the advice and encouragement they have given me in my work. Once again I give my thanks to the office staff for their good work during the year. I am grateful to the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Impett, the Health Inspectors and the Clerical Staff for their co-operation and diligence in their work. It is a pleasure to work with them.

JAMES R. PRESTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1957

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	-	-	JAMES R. PRESTON, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S.G.
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	C. E. IMPETT, M.R.S.H.
<i>Senior Assistant Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	H. T. MITCHELL, M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspectors</i>	-	-	H. MEREDITH. J. B. JONES, A.R.S.H. (resigned 20/1/57) S. J. MAYO, A.R.S.H. (commenced 1/3/57)
<i>Pupil Public Health Inspector</i>	-	-	T. R. NUTT (commenced 16/9/57)
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	-	-	G. W. T. NICHOLLS.
<i>Clerk</i>	-	-	R. M. HALL.
<i>Shorthand Typists</i>	-	-	Mrs. D. M. WARRILOW. Miss A. E. ARMISHAW (resigned 31/5/57) Mrs. C. M. LEATHER (commenced 27/5/57) Miss M. V. HILDICK
<i>Public Analyst</i>	-	-	F. G. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	...	13,978 acres
Population—Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	29,928
Census, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	47,590
As estimated by Registrar-General mid-year, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	55,950
Total number of inhabited houses—						
31st December, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	13,795
31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	14,046
31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	14,257
31st December, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	14,703
31st December, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	14,929
31st December, 1952	...	...	...	...	...	15,085
31st December, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	15,669
31st December, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	16,387
31st December, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	17,280
31st December, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	17,802
31st December, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	19,025
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	£945,257
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1957-58,						£3,733 (approx.)

PHYSICAL FEATURES

The Municipal Borough and Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield lies in the North-west corner of the County of Warwick. It has an area of 13,978 acres. From the Southern Boundary at Chester Road where it marches with Birmingham to the Watford Gap Northern Boundary is a distance of $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The main road

between these two points divides the Borough into approximately two equal parts : the Eastern half is more agricultural and less densely populated, and in the Western half lies the park, the most important physical feature of the district with its 2,400 acres of woods and moorland set in undulating country with gorse, heather, streams and pools. The Southern areas and vicinity of the main road are the most densely populated, although with the growth of Falcon Lodge, Walmley and the development in the Hill area, the population is becoming more evenly distributed.

The district is residential and agricultural, and forms a pleasant residential area for persons working in the neighbouring city of Birmingham.

The subsoil varies somewhat but is for the most part sandy and porous with a fairly consistent level of subsoil water, conditions which make for healthy building sites.

There are no occupations in the Borough which would adversely affect the public health, and the number of factories is relatively small.

DISTRICTS OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

The town of Sutton Coldfield with its population of 55,950 is the third largest borough in Warwickshire. The borough is still rapidly growing and expanding in population, housing and amenities.

The town is divided into seven wards as shown below in the local estimate of population of the wards at mid-year 1957.

**ESTIMATION OF POPULATION OF WARDS
AT MID-YEAR 1957**

Ward	Houses	Population
TRINITY	1,865	5,645
HILL	3,576	10,824
BOLDMERE (East) ...	1,770	5,357
BOLDMERE (West) ...	3,707	11,220
WYLDE GREEN ...	1,875	5,675
MANEY	1,738	5,261
WALMLEY	3,954	11,968
Totals ...	18,485	55,950

METEOROLOGY

A general survey of the meteorological records for the year ended 31st March, 1958 shows that as compared with the previous year, there was more sunshine and a heavier rainfall.

Sunshine

The total hours of sunshine during this year amounted to 1,338.10 as against 1,237.40 hours in 1956. June was the brightest month with 287.00 hours and the dulllest month of the year was December with 39.00 hours.

Rainfall

The total rainfall during the year was 29.41 inches as compared with 23.215 inches during 1956. Rainfall was heaviest in September with 4.65 inches and April was the driest month with 0.26 inches.

The heaviest rainfall experienced in one day occurred on the 5th August during the Jamboree when 1.36 inches was recorded. During the year rain fell on 167 days as compared with 146 days in 1956.

Temperature

The highest temperature during the year occurred on 29th of June, when 87°F. in the shade was recorded. This was 8°F. more than the highest temperature recorded in 1956. The lowest temperature of the year was 9°F. higher than 1956 and occurred on 24th and 25th of January 1958, when 11°F. was recorded.

The mean temperature of the year was 49°F. this being 2°F. higher than 1956.

The following is a table of meterological observations taken at the Park Lodge and Council House during the year ended 31st March, 1958, by the Park Forester.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT THE PARK LODGE AND COUNCIL HOUSE
DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1958, BY THE PARK FORESTER

Lat. : 52 deg. 33 min. 22 sec. N. Long. : 1 deg. 49 min. 42 sec. W.
Height of Rain Gauge above Sea Level, 370.5 feet.

MONTH	RAINFALL			BAROMETER			THERMOMETERS							SUNSHINE	MONTH			
	Total depth in inches	Number of days on which rain fell	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Highest corrected readings		Lowest corrected readings		In Shade			Mean Temp. in shade	Highest readings in Sun		Lowest readings on grass		Monthly totals		
				Ins.	Date	Ins.	Date	Dgrs.	Date	Dgrs.	Date	Dgrs.	Date					
APRIL	.26	5	.20	30.470	25th	29.870	11th	66	24th	29	12th	48.5	120	21	12th	154	30	APRIL
MAY	1.13	10	.29	30.570	25/26/27th	29.570	9th	67	25/28	28	6th	51.5	132	19	6th	186	20	MAY
JUNE	1.02	11	.24	30.520	18th	29.620	8th	87	29th	37	12th	60	137	29	23rd	287	00	JUNE
JULY	3.36	22	.50	30.170	31st	29.520	12th	83	7th	41	11th	63	136	37	11th	121	00	JULY
AUGUST	4.61	18	1.36	30.320	2/3	28.620	9th	80	5th	42	22nd	59.5	134	35	29th	127	20	AUGUST
SEPTEMBER	4.65	18	.97	30.220	26/27	29.620	7th	66	18th	35	30th	58.5	122	27	30th	92	10	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	1.59	13	.25	30.220	1 & 9	29.620	18th	65	16th	28	20th	50	110	22	20th	58	30	OCTOBER
NOVEMBER	2.16	9	1.04	30.420	20/21	28.770	5th	55	1st	22	8th	43	85	18	8th	62	10	NOVEMBER
DECEMBER	2.32	16	.47	30.420	3/4	28.920	11th	57	8th	18	3rd	38	69	14	2nd	39	00	DECEMBER
JANUARY	2.01	16	.42	30.520	15/16	28.620	5th	54	28th	11	24/25	37.5	69	7	24th	46	10	JANUARY
FEBRUARY	4.62	17	.59	30.520	3rd	28.920	8th	57	15th	21	7th	39	57	15	7th	62	30	FEBRUARY
MARCH	1.68	12	.34	30.320	3/4/21	29.370	28th	56	31st	20	21st	38	103	15	21st	101	30	MARCH
Totals ...	29.41	167						Mean for the year ...			49	Total ...			1,338	10	...	

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957

							Males	Females	Total
Live Births									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...		505	485	990
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...		10	8	18
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...		515	493	1,008
Still Births									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...		12	8	20
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...		12	8	20
Deaths									
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...		254	241	495
Maternal Mortality									
Deaths from puerperal causes :									
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...		—	1	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...		—	1	1
Deaths from Special Causes									
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...		46	36	82
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Infant Mortality									
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...		14	11	25
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...		14	11	25
Neo-Natal Deaths									
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :									
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...		12	8	20
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
Total registered	...	...	...	...	...		12	8	20

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957

(continued)

Birth-Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, mid-1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.93
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.36
Death-Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.85
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births								
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.97
Abortion with sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Abortion without sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death-Rate of Infants under 1 year of age								
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.2
Death-Rate per 1,000 estimated population								
Tuberculosis—pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ non-pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.47
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.16
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.25
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH ASSIGNABLE TO THE BOROUGH

			Males	Females	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	—	1	1
4	Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases		—	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	5	5	10
11	„ „ lung, bronchus		15	5	20
12	„ „ breast	...	—	9	9
13	„ „ uterus	...	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	26	16	42
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	—	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	2	2	4
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	35	44	79
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	50	33	83
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	5	6	11
20	Other heart disease	...	22	26	48
21	Other circulatory disease	...	18	10	28
22	Influenza	...	6	3	9
23	Pneumonia	...	4	10	14
24	Bronchitis	...	13	9	22
25	Other diseases of respiratory system		3	3	6
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	4	1	5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	2	4	6
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	2	—	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	...	5	2	7
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		24	39	63
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	3	1	4
34	All other accidents	...	5	7	12
35	Suicide	...	5	2	7
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—	—
	ALL CAUSES	...	254	241	495

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH

Diseases	MALES								FEMALES												
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	All ages	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	All ages	
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5	5
" lung and bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	—	3	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	5
" breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	9	1
" uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	8	10	6	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	6	16	16
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	8	16	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	14	1	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	14	24	10	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	12	15	27	44
Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6	33
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	2	12	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	20	26	6
Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	6	18	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	6	10	10
Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	3	3
Influenza ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	6	13	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	5	9	9
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	10
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations ...	5	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	24	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	27	39	39
Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
All other accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	4	7	7
Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	14	—	—	—	5	17	62	74	82	254	11	—	—	2	1	4	33	54	136	241	241

MORTALITY BY AGE AND SEX

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Death-Rate per 1,000 Population (Estimated R.-G.)</i>
Under 1 year	14	11	25	.447
1 and under 2	—	—	—	.000
2 and under 5	—	—	—	.000
5 and under 15	—	2	2	.036
15 and under 25	5	1	6	.107
25 and under 45	17	4	21	.375
45 and under 65	62	33	95	1.698
65 and under 75	74	54	128	2.288
75 and over	82	136	218	3.896
Total—All Ages ...	254	241	495	8.847

VITAL STATISTICS—SUTTON COLDFIELD—1861 to 1957

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Infant Mortality†</i>	<i>Birth- Rate†</i>	<i>Death- Rate†</i>
1861	*4,662			
1871	*5,938			
1881	*7,737			
1891	*8,686			
1892	8,950	131	21.22	13.40
1893	9,100	131	24.28	15.71
1894	10,000	90	20.00	11.50
1895	10,500	114	19.90	11.04
1896	10,800	123	19.53	13.50
1897	11,641	103	19.15	11.59
1898	12,619	91	17.35	11.64
1899	13,800	96	22.46	12.18
1900	14,517	93	22.18	11.57
1901	*14,264	97	23.61	11.87
1902	15,635	103	24.02	11.79
1903	16,619	101	21.90	11.97
1904	17,521	136	20.54	10.44
1905	18,491	73	19.90	9.19

*Census.

†Per 1,000 of population.

‡Per 1,000 births.

VITAL STATISTICS—SUTTON COLDFIELD—1861 to 1957—continued

Year				Population	Infant Mortality†	Birth- Rate†	Death- Rate†
1906	...	...	...	19,347	90	20.62	9.71
1907	...	...	...	20,391	65	19.71	8.97
1908	...	...	...	20,952	95	17.74	9.50
1909	...	...	...	21,325	101	17.06	9.61
1910	...	...	...	21,780	104	18.41	9.91
1911	...	...	...	*20,132	105	19.37	10.53
1912	...	...	...	20,600	52	16.87	8.54
1913	...	...	...	20,919	71	19.41	10.97
1914	...	...	...	21,437	53	18.24	9.98
1915	...	...	...	22,513	76	13.85	10.61
1916	...	...	...	22,513	58	16.24	10.76
1917	...	...	...	21,475	61	15.22	12.87
1918	...	...	...	20,685	68	15.74	12.95
1919	...	...	...	20,853	47	15.74	11.56
1920	...	...	...	21,684	31.2	20.6	9.3
1921	...	...	...	*23,028	58.9	17.07	10.02
1922	...	...	...	23,100	56.55	16.83	10.83
1923	...	...	...	23,210	79.54	15.16	9.43
1924	...	...	...	23,570	55.21	13.83	9.75
1925	...	...	...	23,800	37.46	14.57	9.49
1926	...	...	...	24,850	51.61	12.47	10.78
1927	...	...	...	25,540	67.56	14.48	11.19
1928	...	...	...	26,720	30.58	12.23	10.36
1929	...	...	...	27,450	43.47	10.89	13.29
1930	...	...	...	27,450	53.25	12.31	10.20
1931	...	...	...	*29,928	48.0	12.66	11.01
1932	...	...	...	30,310	38.46	12.01	10.06
1933	...	...	...	31,230	28.75	10.02	9.86
1934	...	...	...	32,070	28.25	11.04	10.25
1935	...	...	...	33,110	40.72	13.34	9.69
1936	...	...	...	33,830	34.01	13.04	10.91
1937	...	...	...	35,050	46.15	12.98	11.50
1938	...	...	...	36,350	47.62	15.02	9.46
1939	...	...	...	38,260	28.78	14.45	9.71
1940	...	...	...	40,630	34.25	14.30	11.96
1941	...	...	...	42,060	48.21	13.24	11.17
1942	...	...	...	42,300	40.79	15.65	10.50
1943	...	...	...	41,610	37.3	16.13	10.98
1944	...	...	...	42,440	28.81	19.63	11.26
1945	...	...	...	42,420	35.14	16.10	9.71
1946	...	...	...	44,460	31.75	17.00	11.25
1947	...	...	...	45,280	26.00	18.93	11.08
1948	...	...	...	46,190	25.6	16.09	9.6
1949	...	...	...	46,580	21.4	14.04	11.1
1950	...	...	...	47,440	13.8	13.8	10.9
1951	...	...	...	*47,590	15.4	13.6	11.9
1952	...	...	...	48,180	21.91	13.3	10.5
1953	...	...	...	48,670	13.1	15.72	9.57
1954	...	...	...	49,780	15.5	14.2	9.6
1955	...	...	...	50,630	19.7	16	10.4
1956	...	...	...	52,510	15.5	17.2	10.2
1957	...	...	...	55,950	24.8	17.93	8.85

*Census.

†Per 1,000 of population.

‡Per 1,000 births.

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths

The death rate for 1957 was 8.85 which is the lowest figure recorded for the last 45 years when the figure was 8.54 in 1912.

From the records available from 1892, or the last 66 years, the death-rate has fluctuated between a maximum of 15.71 per 1,000 population in 1893 and a minimum of 8.54 in 1912. Applying the Registrar-General's comparability factor of 1.10 it is found that the standardised death-rate for Sutton Coldfield in 1957 is 9.73. (The comparability factor for each district is supplied by the Registrar-General and the aim is to even out the differences in age and sex distribution of the population of the various districts. The use of this factor allows us to obtain standardised death-rates which are more fairly comparable and accurate than the crude death-rates.)

Birth-Rate

The birth rate for 1957 was 17.93 per 1,000 population and is the highest figure registered during the last ten years. This increase of 106 live births, is again undoubtedly due to the influx of young married couples to the Town following on the building of a large number of private enterprise houses, particularly in the Hill and Four Oaks and Walmley areas.

The highest figure available was that of 1893, namely 24.28 and the lowest in 1933—that of 10.02. The comparability factor was 0.98 and the standardised birth-rate was therefore 17.567 for 1957.

In 1957 the live births exceeded the number of deaths by 513.

Infant Mortality

The Infant Mortality Rate in 1957 was 24.8 per 1,000 live births.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Laboratories

The Medical Research Council directs the Public Health Laboratory Service. One of the constituent laboratories is the Birmingham Public Health Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Sandiford. This laboratory serves Birmingham and parts of the surrounding areas.

The laboratory undertakes the examination of specimens for the diagnosis of cases or suspected carriers of infectious disease. It investigates bacterial contamination of food in cases of suspected

food poisoning. It also tests water, shell-fish, milk, ice cream and foodstuffs for bacterial content.

Dr. Sandiford comments as follows :—

“The epidemiology of poliomyelitis used to be something of a mystery. Foci of infection appeared without apparent rhyme or reason ; whence the infection came was just a big question mark. It seemed to come from nowhere and there were even one or two hardy theorists who suggested that the virus might arise *de novo* in a suitable milieu. This was heresy to the orthodox bacteriologist who regarded such an hypothesis as an atavistic throw-back to the theory of spontaneous generation associated with the origin of Leeuwenhoek’s ‘little animals’.

“The orthodox have triumphed. Investigations into the virological flora of ‘normal’ individuals, including an investigation organised by the P.H.L.S. in which the Public Health Department of Sutton Coldfield has been co-operating, have shown that there are symptomless carriers of poliovirus, just as there are of Sonne dysentery bacilli. Indeed, it seems that persons may be the unsuspecting and unsuspected carriers of many other viruses in the bowel. Some of these may be associated with symptoms which would clinically suggest a diagnosis of poliomyelitis.

“The exact role, relationship and importance of this growing group of enteroviruses remain to be established. The position in virology is rather similar to the early days of bacteriology when germs of all shapes and sizes were being discovered, and no one knew quite what it all meant. Meanwhile, ‘the debate continues’.”

Ambulance Services

The ambulance service in the Borough is under the control of Warwickshire County Council.

The Ambulance Centre is at the Ambulance Depot in Boldmere Road. At the end of 1957 there were 17 driver/attendants, 1 attendant and 1 superintendent. The miles covered during the year were 89,257, a decrease of 1,936 as compared with last year’s mileage. The number of patients moved was 15,605, an increase of 451.

Five vehicles (two ambulances, one utility ambulance and two sitting case cars) are fitted with radio which used correctly is a great benefit in vehicle economy.

District Nursing and Midwifery Services

District Nursing and Midwifery Services are under the control of Warwickshire County Council working through the Area Health Office, Sutton Coldfield.

In 1957 there were six district nurse/midwives, three district nurses, and one full-time midwife commenced in August. One part-time S.E.A.N. was employed for the chronic sick and district training was arranged in Birmingham for two applicants who will return to this area later. Demand for home nursing is on the increase again due to the growth of the population and owing to the difficulty of getting old people who require nursing attention into hospital, particularly in the case of the chronic sick.

There has again been an increase in domiciliary midwifery during the year.

The number of general nursing visits carried out was 21,050 and there were 10,152 midwifery visits.

Health Visiting

In this area nine Health Visitors were employed during the year and also three part-time trained nurses assist at all clinics. In connection with the home visiting of young children endeavours were made to extend the visiting to other members of the family where this was possible.

Health Visitors have been taking a greater interest in the last few years in Health Education and many lecture/demonstrations are being given to mothers at clinics and at meetings arranged with local organisations.

A 16 mm. sound film projector is available and also equipment for the showing of film strips and colour transparencies.

Health Visitors paid 23,285 visits during the year.

Clinics and Centres

SCHOOL CLINIC

9 HOLLAND STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	AURAL CLINIC (First and third Mondays in month).
			A.M.	CHEST CLINIC (Second and fourth Mondays in month).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	EYE CLINIC.
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CONSULTATION CLINIC.
Friday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	EYE CLINIC (extra session once a month).
			P.M.	CHEST CLINIC (as required).
Saturday	-	-	A.M.	CONSULTATION CLINIC (as required).

WELFARE CENTRE

49 HOLLAND STREET, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	SUN-RAY CLINIC (Winter months only).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).
			P.M.	EXERCISE CLINIC (Children).
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC (Children).
			P.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC (Children).
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	SUN-RAY CLINIC (Winter months only).
			A.M.	B.C.G. CLINIC (Children)
				(Fourth Thursday in the month).
			P.M.	EXERCISE CLINIC (Children).
Friday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).
Friday Evening	-			FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE

MERE GREEN ROAD, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL, AND
				TODDLERS' CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).

WELFARE CENTRE

BOLDMERE ROAD, BOLDMERE, SUTTON COLDFIELD

Monday	-	-	A.M.	CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
Monday Evening	-			FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.
Tuesday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	PSYCHIATRIC OUT-PATIENT CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).
			A.M.	TODDLER CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Thursday	-	-	P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).
Friday	-	-	A.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	DENTAL CLINIC.

WELFARE CENTRE

THE GREEN, MINWORTH

Wednesday	-	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE, ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC (Combined) (alternate weeks).
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WELFARE CENTRE

WALMLEY ROAD, WALMLEY

Tuesday	-	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC
				(alternate weeks).
Thursday	-	-	P.M.	SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC.

**WELFARE CENTRE
BANNERS GATE ROAD, BANNERS GATE**

Tuesday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
Friday	-	-	A.M.	ANTE-NATAL AND POST NATAL, AND TODDLER CLINIC (alternate weeks).
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

**WELFARE CENTRE
CHURCHILL ROAD, FALCON LODGE**

Monday	-	-	A.M.	SPEECH THERAPY.
Monday Evening	-			DENTAL CLINIC (expectant mothers).
Tuesday	-	-	P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.
Wednesday	-	-	P.M.	PREPARATION FOR MOTHERHOOD CLINIC (alternate weeks).
Thursday	-	-	A.M.	TODDLERS AND ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.
			P.M.	CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

CLINICS GENERAL

Falcon Lodge Clinic

During this year a new permanent clinic was opened on the new Council Estate at Falcon Lodge. Previously the mothers and children from this estate had to travel to Walmley Clinic by 'bus. This clinic is proving most satisfactory and a further part-time Medical Officer is employed for this clinic.

Minworth Clinic

The Clinic at Minworth, which was a wooden structure, was unfortunately burned down on the 15th June this year and was totally destroyed. The clinic is at present being held in the Minworth Social Club and no charge is made and we are indeed grateful to the Minworth Social Club for the facilities offered pending the building of a new clinic and library combined. The Minworth Social Club is situated at the Green, Minworth.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

These services were transferred to the Warwickshire County Council in 1948, the Medical Officer of Health remaining in administrative charge as Area Medical Officer. In this work of Maternity and Child Welfare he is assisted by one full-time and two part-time Medical Officers, and an Area Nursing Officer, who supervises the nursing services in the area. Three part-time Medical Officers were also employed in connection with the Poliomyelitis Vaccination programme.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics

Six ante-natal and post-natal clinic sessions are held in Sutton Coldfield clinics. One is held weekly, and five fortnightly.

In 1957 approximately 73% of confinements took place in institutions. Many of the institutions run their own clinics and this naturally causes a fall in numbers in local authority clinic attendances.

Maternal Mortality

I am very pleased to report that there were no maternal deaths in the Borough, although there were 1,008 live births in the Borough in 1957. This is an increase of 106 births over the 1956 figure. This is the first occasion on which there has been over 1,000 live births in Sutton Coldfield.

Infant Mortality

There were 25 deaths of infants under a year giving an infant mortality rate of 24.8 which is considerably higher than the figure of 15.5 for 1956 when taking into consideration the increase in the live birth rate over that of 1956.

The infant mortality rate of 24.8 is the highest figure for nine years. Most of the deaths were attributable to prematurity coupled in some cases with congenital malformations.

Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases

Sutton Coldfield Maternity Unit provided accommodation for 279 institutional confinements. Domiciliary confinements amounted to 268 and Birmingham Hospitals and private nursing homes provided for the remainder.

It will be seen from the above that the maternity accommodation and provision is in three parts.

- (1) That provided by the Hospital Management Committee in the shape of Sutton Coldfield Maternity Unit of 14 beds.
- (2) By the Domiciliary Midwifery Service provided by the County Council.
- (3) Other hospitals in the regions outside Sutton Coldfield.

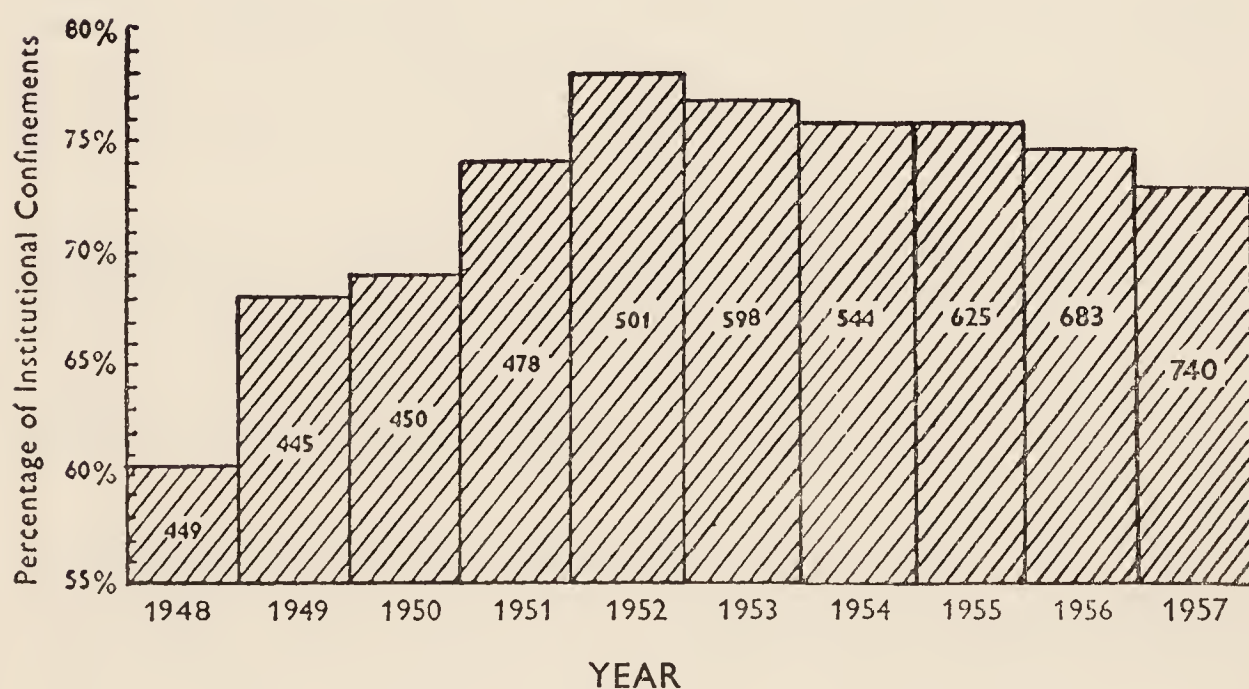
There is no institutional provision in Sutton Coldfield for cases apart from those being admitted on social grounds to the Maternity Unit and, naturally, there is a feeling in the area that it is unreasonable to ask such a large number of the mothers to go out of their own area to have their children, apart entirely from the difficulties of travelling for husbands and visitors.

During the next two or three years, it is certain that there will be a large increase in the number of births in the Town and I estimate that this increase will bring the number of births to nearly 1,200 next year. I do think that the Regional Hospital Board should provide more accommodation locally for cases which need institutional care. Perhaps they might consider the provision of Maternity accommodation in Good Hope Hospital or elsewhere in the Town.

Maternity Accommodation

Number and Percentage of Institutional Confinements for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 1



Cases which for social reasons cannot remain at home are visited by the Local Health Authority midwives and referred where appropriate to the Hospital Management Committee for admission to a maternity ward.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The Local Health Authority is responsible for carrying out this and effort is made to ensure that every child under one has been immunised. A boosting dose is offered to all children in their first year at school and also when they attain the age of ten years.

Home Help Service

This service is under the control of the local Health Authority, Warwickshire County Council, the day-to-day administration being carried out in the Sutton Coldfield Area Health Department.

This service is one of the most important services and has grown steadily owing to the continued increase in the number of calls made on it, particularly by mothers who are being confined at home.

There is also a demand for this service by the old people who are no longer able to cope and who require a few days Home Help per week to enable them to keep their house in reasonable order. This plays a very important part in keeping a number of old people out of hospital who would otherwise have to be admitted, and although it is costly, it is the cheaper way of dealing with the problem of the chronic sick old person. Apart from cost, it seems to me that it is far better to keep old people in their own home as long as possible and the Home Help Service plays a large part in this.

The number of cases given help during the year was 350 and the number of hours increased by 638 hours to a total of 37,726 hours.

There were 211 short term cases the majority of which were maternity cases, and 139 long term cases, most of which were the aged and infirm.

The number of home helps employed at the end of the year was 42 part time and one full time.

Day Nurseries

These are the responsibility of the Warwickshire County Council the Local Health Authority in this area, and it is not the policy of the County Council to provide a day nursery in Sutton Coldfield.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER SUPPLY

There are three systems of water supply in the Borough :

- (a) The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. (This serves the majority of the populated area).
- (b) The Birmingham City Water Undertaking. (This serves certain areas adjacent to the Birmingham City Boundary).
- (c) Private Supplies. (Spring or well supplies in the outlying and rural areas).

Some notes on these three systems are given below :

(a) and (b) **Public Water Supplies**

(a) The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company supply approximately 90% of the population of the Borough of Sutton Coldfield.

The supply to Sutton Coldfield during 1957 was satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The supply is derived from five underground sources and also from Blithfield Reservoir. Chlorination is practised as a precautionary measure at four of the supplying stations, while the supply from Blithfield is filtered and chlorinated at Seedy Mill Purification Works. The sources of supply are examined regularly and frequently, both bacteriologically and chemically, and where chlorination is practised, bacteriological samples of the raw water are examined where possible.

During 1957, 227 samples of the water pumped to supply from the five underground sources were examined. Of these, four contained coliform bacteria, three confirming intermediate and one aerogenes bacteria, but no *B. coli*. were found. 143 samples of the water prior to chlorination were also examined, six of which contained coliform bacteria, but none confirmed *B. coli*. 14 out of 304 samples of the chlorinated Blithe water contained coliform bacteria, four confirming faecal *B. coli*., five aerogenes, one intermediate and four irregular bacteria. 250 samples of this water before treatment gave an approximate average coliform bacteria content of 36 per 100 ml.

Regular monthly tap samples were examined within the Borough from :

The Company's Depot, Coleshill Road, Sutton Coldfield.
Sutton Golf Club, Streetly.
50 Four Oaks Road, Four Oaks.

One out of 12 samples from the Company's Depot contained intermediate bacteria in 100 ml., but 13 samples from Streetly and 12 from Four Oaks were all free from coliform bacteria. Chemical composition was fairly constant, hardness averaging 219 p.p.m.

The average results for 1957 of the 12 samples from the Water-works Depot were :

pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.6			
Alkalinity (CaCo ₃)	...	...	...	...	...	123	parts per million		
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	...	...	...	27	"	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	"	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	...	Trace	"	"	"
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	...	...	...	...	...	6.4	"	"	"
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C.)	...	...	...	...	...	.12	"	"	"
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	118	"	"	"
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	101	"	"	"
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	219	"	"	"
Iron (fe)	...	...	...	...	...	.02	"	"	"
Manganese (Mn)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Zinc (Zn)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Poisonous Metals (Cu and Pb)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"
Free Cl	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	"	"	"

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvency, all 37 samples from the taps being free from any detectable quantities of lead.

The following particulars are of the main extensions laid during 1957 :

Location					Length in yards.			
					4"	6"	9"	12"
Coppice Farm Site	...	...	...	...	52			12
Hill Hook Road	...	...	...	...	32	16	953	
Lichfield Road	...	...	...	...		2	34	
Blake Street	...	...	...	...		6	2	
St. Michael's Road	...	...	...	...	218			
Rectory Road Site	...	...	...	...	214			
Eachelhurst Site	...	...	...	...	637			
Pilkington Site	...	...	...	...	529			
Somerville Estate	...	...	...	...	556			
Chester Road	...	...	...	...	120			
Rectory Park Industrial Site	...	...	...	...		77		

Location					Length in yards			
					4"	6"	9"	12"
Carhampton Road	...	...	...	...	294			
Birmingham Road Site		...	...	...	422	235		
Grange Lane	...	...	...	...	70			
Streetly Crescent	...	...	...	...	685			
Rectory Road—Bedford Road Site	...			...	144			
Penns Wood Drive	...	...	...	...	171			
Fordrough	...	...	...	...	84			
Barnard Road	...	...	...	...	416			
Conchar Road	...	...	...	...	73			
Springfield Estate	...	...	...	...	299			
Lindridge Road—Withy Hill Road	...			...	607			
Harcourt Drive	...	...	...	...	45			
					5,668	336	989	12

Within the area of supply in the Borough 17,327 houses are supplied direct and seven by means of outside taps.

A copy of a sample of water submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service is given below :

Bacteriological

Total Count : Number of colonies developing from 1 ml. of sample in agar after two days' incubation at 37°C. 2

Coliform count : Type and number per 100 ml. of sample ... Nil

(b) The Birmingham City Water Undertaking.

A small proportion of the Borough adjacent to the Birmingham boundary is supplied with water from the mains of the City of Birmingham Water Department. This is soft moorland water derived from the Department's gathering grounds in Wales, and is first treated by rapid gravity filters followed by treatment with hydrated lime to neutralise its natural acidity and, finally, chlorination before entering the Elan Aqueduct. After passing through storage reservoirs at the Birmingham end of the Aqueduct the water is further treated at the Frankley Works by rapid or slow sand filtration followed by chlorination, after which it remains underground until reaching the consumers.

Regular weekly bacteriological and monthly chemical examinations are made of the water before and after treatment at the Frankley Works and similar tests are regularly carried out on samples taken from different points in the Birmingham distribution system.

During 1957, 53 weekly bacteriological samples of the treated water passing into distribution at the Frankley Works contained an average of two organisms per 1 ml. in agar at 37°C. in 48 hours, the highest concentration in any sample being 7 per ml. B. Coli. Type 1 were absent in all these samples.

The chemical composition of the water was practically constant with an average hardness of 20 p.p.m.

The average results obtained by the City Analyst from routine monthly samples of the Elan water as distributed from Frankley during 1957 are set out in the following table.

Description.	Elan water : (i) Extremes of results in (i) : Minimum Maximum		
Ph.	7.2	6.8	7.7
Total Solid Matter p.p.m.	41	37	45
Free Ammonia ... ..	.001	.000	.006
Albuminoid or Organic Ammonia ...	.056	.024	.144
Nitrogen in Nitrates ... ..	.13	.03	.29
Oxygen consumed in 4 hours at 27° (80°F.)	1.30	.92	1.92
Chlorine in Chlorides	8.5	7.5	9.0
Hardness (as CaCo ₃)	20	17	22
Total Alkalinity (as CaCo ₃)	8.5	8	10
Erosion—1 day	125	105	150

During 1957 Birmingham Water Undertaking laid the following main extensions in the Borough :

New Oscott Area :

Sutton Oak Road and Bakers Lane, 217 yards of 4in. main.

Minworth Area :

Bonner Drive, 108 yards of 4in. main.

A copy of the report of a sample of this water submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service is given below :

Bacteriological

Total Count : Number of colonies developing from 1 ml.
of sample in agar after two days' incubation
at 37°C. 2

Coliform Count : Type and number per 100 ml. of sample ... Nil

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and Mr. C. A. Risbridger, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., Chief Engineer of the City of Birmingham Water Department for the information supplied with regard to their respective water undertakings and their comments on the analysis of the water supply.

(c) Private Water Supplies

In the rural parts of the Borough there are 39 houses on private supplies. This is a reduction of 6 since last year.

During the year 79 samples were taken from these supplies. 19 were unsatisfactory, 9 suspicious, 12 satisfactory and 39 excellent.

There is no recognised classification for this type of water supply but the classifications given above are based upon results received from the Laboratory and the conditions known to exist at and around the supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The main drainage of the town was undertaken in 1887 and runs by way of the valley of Plants Brook to the Tame and Rea District Drainage Board in an egg-shaped main sewer which is 4ft. 6in. \times 3ft. at its outfall at Minworth.

Boldmere was drained in 1900 and here in parts of Jockey Road a depth of 60 feet was attained.

The main drainage of the Streetly area was completed in the early part of this century, and a sewage lift operates in Streetly Lane owing to the low level of the sewer.

The sewage from the area east of Walmley Road drains to the sewage disposal works at Langley Farm.

In 1950 sewers were completed in Weeford Road, Queslett Road, Stonehouse Road and in the Park, and a surface water sewer was laid in Bakers Lane.

In 1951 main sewers were laid in Clarence Road, Hillside Road, as part of the Lichfield Road drainage scheme. Sewers were laid in Birmingham Road to prevent localised flooding.

In 1953 surface sewers and foul sewers were laid for stage six of Falcon Lodge Development, and in Minworth, and in the Queslett Road area, further sewers were laid in the Somerville estate and the Springfield estate areas. Numerous other smaller extensions were made in 1953.

In 1954 the main extensions to the surface sewers and foul sewers were in the Reddicap Heath, the Queslett Road and in the Boldmere West area.

In 1955 the main extensions to surface water and foul sewers were in the Whitehouse Common area, Roughley and Butlers Lane area.

In 1956 the main extensions to surface water and foul sewers were in the Banners Gate, Boldmere and Walmley areas.

In 1957 the sewers laid were as follows :

	Surface Water Sewers			Foul Sewers	
	Yards			Yards	
	6"	9"	12"	6"	9"
Service Road off East View Road	85	—	—	—	—
Ashfurlong Crescent (part) ...	35	276	—	283	30
Rosslyn Road	—	327	—	808	—
Faircroft Avenue	—	90	—	220	—
Overdale Avenue	—	56	—	228	—
Eachelhurst Road :					
Service Road	—	100	—	—	—
Denholm Road }	—	660	—	—	663
Stirling Road }					
Bakers Lane Estate :					
(Elmwood Road, Allmyn Drive,					
Mayland Road)	125	375	—	296	200
Wimbourne Road	—	305	—	—	210
Bickley Avenue (part)	113	90	—	82	—
Fernwood Close	105	—	—	105	—
Fernwood Road	52	128	—	47	125
Roughley Drive	85	193	—	60	192
Queslett Road East Estate					
Kingswood Drive					
Beacon View Drive	290	215	—	256	295
Rowton Drive					
Lindens Drive					
Finstall Close	60	100	—	100	—
Wylde Green Road					
Lindridge Road	—	300	150	—	—
	950	3,215	150	2,485	1,715

HOUSES WITH SUB-STANDARD SANITATION

(a) Not connected to main drainage :

At the 31st December, 1957, 257 houses were not connected to main drainage, 152 having privy closets, two of this number sharing privy accommodation. 90 houses had a water closet connected to a cesspool and 15 houses were served by water closet connected to

a treatment unit. 252 of the houses which were not connected to main drainage are situated in Walmley and Hill Wards. The Corporation provides a cesspool emptying service on payment by the occupier. Pail closets, which are not emptied by the Corporation, are mostly situated in rural areas. The contents are emptied by the occupiers and buried. Cesspool and pail closets are primitive forms of sanitation, and every opportunity is taken to eliminate them. The treatment units which have been installed in a number of instances are an improvement in that if properly sited and constructed, the effluent is rendered innocuous and only a minimum of maintenance is required to keep the unit in satisfactory order.

(b) Shared water closets connected to main sewer :

169 houses have water closets used in common with another house. This is a reduction of four, due to demolition of sub-standard properties included in the Five Year Slum Clearance Programme. A considerable number of the houses with shared water closet facilities are situated in the central section of the Borough.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

These services are carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department under the direction of the Highways Committee.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal (Combined)

Refuse Destructor

1957			Destroyed			Tipped.		
			tons	cwts.	qrs.	tons	cwts.	qrs.
January	...	...	1,604	14	0	5	10	0
February	...	...	1,355	13	0			
March	...	...	1,315	9	0	34	7	0
April	...	...	1,315	18	0	14	18	0
May	...	...	1,268	1	0			
June	...	...	884	12	0			
July	...	...	955	5	0	11	12	0
August	...	...	1,008	14	0	172	11	0
September	...	...				991	15	0
October	...	...				1,192	3	0
November	...	...				1,251	18	0
December	...	...				1,193	4	0
			9,708	6	0	4,867	18	0

Total : 14,576 tons, 4 cwts., 0 qrs.

Cwts. collected per 1,000 population per day ... 14.3 cwts.

Street Cleaning and Gulley Cleaning

There are 125 miles of roads in the Borough. The method of street cleaning includes the use of street orderly carts and two mechanical road sweepers.

Gulley emptying is carried out by means of two Shelvoke and Drury gulley emptiers.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There are no rivers in the Borough, but a number of streams are subjected to supervision from time to time.

Although there was little actual flooding during 1957 there was some evidence that some of the brook courses would become surcharged in times of heavy rain and would then cause localised flooding. This position has been aggravated by the connection into the brook course of storm water from new housing estates and this is especially the case in the Rectory Road/Riland Road area.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The establishment of the Department is fixed at five public health inspectors but despite repeated efforts it was not possible to have more than four inspectors on the staff during the year. However, in August a pupil inspector commenced duty and he will no doubt prove of increasing value as he gains knowledge and experience.

At the commencement of the year one of the inspectors was absent from duty for a considerable time due to ill-health.

With the continued increase in the number of houses and population, work continues to expand. The total number of visits and inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspectors was 10,333.

1,437 complaints were received and investigated. The classification of these complaints is set out below :

Animal Keeping	...	...	...	...	...	18
Food	...	...	...	...	...	96
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	310
Drains	...	...	...	...	...	125
Rodents	...	...	...	...	...	402
Air Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	17

Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	32
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	236
Insects	...	...	...	...	...	66
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	71
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	54
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/> 1,437 <hr/>

A summary of the visits made by the Inspectors is given in the following tabular statement :

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' ANNUAL TABULAR STATEMENT

VISITS

Public Health Acts

Houses (Primary Visits)	...	...	...	...	...	349
Houses (Secondary Visits)	...	...	...	...	...	1,034
Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	176
Drainage : (a) Main	...	...	...	...	...	576
(b) Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	122
(c) Privies	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water Supply : (a) Main	...	...	...	...	...	7
(b) Wells	...	...	...	...	...	4
(c) Others	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	346
Infectious Diseases Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	38
Dirty and Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	53
Other Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	...	172
Animal Keeping : (a) Domestic	...	...	...	...	...	90
(b) Pigsties	...	...	...	...	...	131
(c) Horses	...	...	...	...	...	11
(d) Cattle	...	...	...	...	...	8
Accumulations and Deposits	...	...	...	...	...	72
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	920

Refuse Destructor ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Tips ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Ponds, Pools, Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Swimming Baths ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Public Halls (without catering)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Workplaces ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Sports Grounds ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Swingfog in Sutton Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Noise Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Housing Acts							
Inspection of Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	974
Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Substandard Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	428
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Rent Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	268
Housing Enquiries ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests							
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Other Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Factories Acts							
Factories with Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Factories without Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Building Operations and Works Eng. Cons.	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Food and Drugs Acts							
Shops :							
Baker ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Butcher	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Chemist ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fish (Fried)	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Fish (Wet)	...	...	...	...	...	...	33

Greengrocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Grocer	...	...	...	...	...	...	345
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Sweetshop	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Wines Shop/Beer Off	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Other Premises :							
Bakehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Hotel/Restaurant/Canteen	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Public House	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Preserved Food Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
School Meals Centre	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Public Halls (with catering)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food Factory/Warehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Park Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Mobile Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Food Poisoning Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Food Inspection							
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Other Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	147
Milk and Dairies							
Retailers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Milk Transports	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sampling							
Food and Drugs Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	593
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	286
Other Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to Laboratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Jamboree	...	...	...	...	...	...	171
Court Proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Meetings and Exhibitions	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
							10,333

NOTICES under the Public Health Act, 1936

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>				<i>Grand Total</i>
		<i>S.39</i>	<i>S.45</i>	<i>S.75</i>	<i>S.93</i>	
Outstanding 31/12/1956	11	2	—	1	1	15
Served during 1957	165	1	1	63	26	256
Totals	176	3	1	64	27	271
Outstanding 31/12/1957	28	1	—	4	11	44
Complied with during 1957 ...	148	2	1	60	16	227

WORK REQUIRED BY NOTICES

Drainage

Drains unchoked or repaired	...	...	...	...	34
W.C.s repaired or renewed	20

Water Supply

Service pipes repaired or renewed	6
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Roofs

Repaired	51
Rainwater conduits repaired	35

Walls —external, repaired	19
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Chimneys —repaired	18
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Doors —repaired or renewed	10
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Windows —repaired or renewed	27
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Ceiling and Internal Walls —repaired	49
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Floors —repaired or renewed	21
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Staircases —repaired	2
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Sinks —repaired or renewed	3
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Firegrates —repaired or renewed	11
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Dustbins —provided (owner/occupied houses)	40
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Paving —repaired	4
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SHOPS AND OFFICES

Inspection of shops continues to be very largely carried out in conjunction with routine inspections under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A gradual improvement in the conditions has been effected throughout the years, but there is still a number of premises which fail to attain a satisfactory standard. This is particularly true of the sanitary accommodation of some offices.

The legislation governing these premises is comparatively weak, but despite promises by successive governments, improved legislation has not yet been enacted.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

The Public Health control of camping sites falls into two categories :

- (a) Camping sites for a group of movable dwellings, and
- (b) Licences granted to individual owners of movable dwellings.

There is one private site situated on the Birmingham Road which holds a maximum of six caravans but during the year inspection showed that only two caravans were occupying the site at any one time.

In addition, 38 licences for individual dwellings were issued, each licence terminating on the 31st December, 1957. These are renewable annually on the 1st January.

The increase in the number of these dwellings which has been noticed through the past few years did not occur in 1957 and the figure of 38 represents a decrease of one.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

It has now become generally recognised that the responsibility for atmospheric pollution is evenly divided between industrial and residential sources.

Certain sections of the Clean Air Act, 1956, came into operation early in the year and for the first time local authorities were given means, whereby control of domestic smoke can be exercised. This Local Authority has not yet taken active steps to promote a smoke-controlled area but some local authorities in the vicinity have done so, notably West Bromwich and Willenhall, who were two of the first in the country to do so.

The remainder of the Act is expected to come into operation during next year.

The problem of industrial atmospheric pollution in the Minworth area has continued to give concern to the Department. Some of the processes carried out at this group of factories are

already under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate and, with the proposals now before Parliament, it is anticipated that the majority of the remainder of the works will pass from the responsibility of this Local Authority.

Smoke emission from the chimney at the hospital in Rectory Road has again given rise to complaint but here again unfortunately the Local Authority exercises no direct control as the hospital is deemed to be Crown property.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Since the installation of a breakpoint chlorination plant the water at Keepers baths has been satisfactory.

Undoubtedly the reduction in the number of bathers permitted at one time, and the resting of the pool to enable the plant to deal with the water efficiently has effected a considerable improvement in the bacterial condition of the water.

The baths attendant checks from time to time the residual chlorine of the water, and periodic checks and samples are taken by this Department. A copy of one of the bacteriological and chemical analyses made by the Public Analyst is given below:

Bacteriological

Number of colonies capable of growth on Agar-Agar in two days at 37°C. per c.c.	...	...	...	...	102
Number of colonies capable of growth on Rebigel-Agar in two days at 37°C. per c.c.	...	...	...	...	0
Number of colonies capable of growth on Agar-Agar in four days at 20°C. per c.c.	...	...	...	...	312
Presumptive B. Coli in 100 c.c.	...	...	...	...	Absent

Chemical

Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.680
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	1.44
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	186.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	...	...	1.5
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F. in 4 hrs.	...	...	...	...	3.4
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	...	700
Nitrite	...	...	...	...	Absent
pH	...	...	...	...	8.38

Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.25
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Very slightly turbid, few small particles.		
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	...	...	220

The above results show that this water is at present in a safe condition for use in a public swimming bath. The free chlorine, however, is rather low.

DISINFESTATION

During 1957, 53 visits were made to dirty and verminous premises, and disinfestation carried out by the Department where necessary.

The methods used from time to time vary according to the premises and the type of infestation.

PARK INSECT CONTROL

As the World Scout Jamboree, Indaba and Moot were to be held in Sutton Park it was decided early in the year that extensive treatment of the Park should be made by a firm specialising in insect control. This work was paid for by the Boy Scouts Association and extensive areas of the Park were given three treatments, particular attention being given to the well-known areas of infestation around Windley, Blackroot, Bracebridge and Longmoor. The swampy nature of the ground around these pools provides extensive breeding ground for mosquitoes and midges.

The work by Disinfestation Limited was supplemented by the use of the Department's Swingfog apparatus on a fairly wide scale.

It was gratifying to have favourable comment on the relative absence of insects which bite and annoy residents and park visitors alike.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provides a comprehensive service for the destruction of rats and mice. A flat rate charge is made for treatment at infested domestic premises, while a charge on time and materials basis is made for all business premises.

Two full-time Rodent Operators are employed, and made a total of 6,352 visits and inspections. In addition, as is shown elsewhere, the Public Health Inspectors made 300 visits and inspections for this purpose.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (includ'g Council Houses)	(3) All other (includ'g Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	28	18,753	1,942	20,723	112
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	2	269	54	325	2
(b) Survey under the Act ...	1	2,888	227	3,116	3
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	6	2,249	642	2,897	9
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ...	9	5,406	923	6,338	14
4. Number of properties inspected (in Section 2) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats —Major	—	—	18	18	1
Minor	—	91	5	96	—
(b) Mice —Major	—	—	2	2	—
Minor	—	8	1	9	—
5. Number of infested properties (in Section 4) treated by the L.A.	—	99	26	125	1
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ...	4	135	48	187	8
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) ...	—	—	1	1	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES

The number of factories registered under the Factories Acts, 1937-1952 is 178.

The general standard of hygiene maintained at factory premises is satisfactory, only minor infringements having been noted.

Factories are inspected as a matter of routine by the Public Health Inspectors, and in addition, infringements are brought to the notice of the Department by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

The number of notices served during the year was 12, but it must be borne in mind that attention is often drawn verbally by the inspectors at the time of visit, where minor infringements are found.

Particulars of inspections are set out in the following Table :—

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	14	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	114	125	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	55	—	—
Total ...	178	194	12	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	3	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	8	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	14	13	—	8	—

OUTWORKERS

16 persons were registered with the Local Authority as performing work of a registrable nature in their own homes.

The premises at which work is carried out are visited periodically and no contraventions of the Acts were noted during the year. 35 visits were made during the year.

SCHOOLS

Visits of inspection were made by Public Health Inspectors to the schools, and the school meals kitchens kept under observation.

Sanitary accommodation at schools was also inspected and defects and lack of cleanliness were reported to the appropriate authority.

All schools within the Borough are provided with main water supplies and washing facilities, and are connected to the main drainage and these facilities are, on the whole, reasonably satisfactory.

At some schools the number of sanitary conveniences provided is inadequate for the number of school children now attending. These larger numbers are accounted for by the increased number of houses being built in the Borough and also the increase in the birth rate in the immediate post-war years.

SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

During 1957 no applications under S.47 were required. It has always been found possible to obtain the admission of any persons who might fall into the category of being in need of care and attention by other means, and there has been no difficulty in getting urgent cases admitted to suitable hospitals or other accommodation.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Housing Conditions

During 1957 the housing situation eased a little owing to the progress made by the Council in its building programme, 125 more houses were erected in 1957 compared with 1956, the bulk of the increase being private enterprise housing.

Dwellings handed over to the Corporation during 1957	114
Houses and flats erected by private enterprise during 1957	1,037
Total houses erected in 1957	<u>1,151</u>

Corporation Housing as at 31/12/57

Temporary houses completed	100
Permanent dwellings completed 1945-57	2,184
Permanent dwellings erected prior to 1945	<u>594</u>
Total houses erected by Council to 31/12/57 ...	<u>2,878</u>

Permanent dwellings under construction at 31/12/57, 103

Private Enterprise Housing as at 31/12/57

Number of houses and flats completed since 1/8/45 ...	4,110
Number of houses under construction	360
Total number of inhabited houses at 31/12/57	19,025

Year	Inhabited Houses Mid-year	Population Mid-year	Persons per Occupied House
1947	13,618	45,280	3.325
1948	13,887	46,190	3.326
1949	14,155	46,580	3.291
1950	14,391	47,440	3.296
1951	14,871	47,790	3.214
1952	15,016	48,180	3.209
1953	15,446	48,670	3.151
1954	16,008	49,780	3.109
1955	16,801	50,630	3.014
1956	17,497	52,510	3.001
1957	18,485	55,950	3.028

Housing Inspection

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	894
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	4,701
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) where inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	30
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	30
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	17
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	256
5.	Remedy of defects during the year, without service of formal notices— Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence	148
6.	Action under Statutory powers during the year :	
(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring repairs ...	None
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a)	By owners	None
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners...	None
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices served requiring defects to be remedied	256
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a)	By owners	57
(b)	By Local Authority in default	22
7.	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(i)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	8
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	11

8. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit None
9. Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
 - (i) Number of houses included in Clearance Areas 10
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of Clearance Area procedure 13

SUB-STANDARD HOUSES

The five-year programme for clearance of sub-standard houses was somewhat interrupted on account of the work necessitated by the Boy Scouts Jamboree.

Only 17 houses were represented but it is hoped that during 1958 it will be possible to bring the programme of representations, etcetera, up to date.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The quality of food is adversely affected by chemical and bacteriological contamination. Excess preservatives, harmful chemical substances, dilution or other adulteration of the food is supervised by routine samples submitted to the Borough Analyst.

Bacteriological contamination occurs in a variety of ways, particularly by means of mishandling or unsuitable storage. Food originally clean or pure is rendered harmful by unhygienic practices.

Food hygiene instruction and advice is given during routine visits to food premises and also by lectures and demonstrations given to a variety of organisations within the Borough.

In recent years increasing attention has been paid to the inspection and supervision of food premises. The Food Hygiene Regulations which came into force during the year have proved helpful. To effectively enforce the Regulations involves the giving of more time for each visit to food premises.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/1956

Improvement of Food Premises

Much importance is placed on the periodic routine inspection of food premises, and by this means considerable improvement has been made through the post-war years in the hygienic standard of structures, fittings and equipment.

The introduction of the Regulations has led to a considerable increase in the number of improvements being effected. In 1955 there were 91, in 1956 387, and in the current year 274, as listed below :

<i>Article of Regulations</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory condition remedied</i>	
5	Insanitary construction of premises	9
6	Cleansing of equipment required	7
	Improvement of equipment required	9
8	Open food unprotected	16
	Clothing stored in food room	3
	Food stored in staff room	1
9	Smoking whilst handling open food	1
14	Sanitary accommodation defective	14
	Hand washing notices not fixed	17
16	Wash hand basins not provided	21
	Hot water supply not provided	17
	Towels not available	13
	Soap not available	12
	Nail brushes not available	12
17	First Aid materials not provided	4
18	Clothing accommodation not provided	4
19	Sinks not provided	9
23	Decoration of walls and ceilings required	29
	Cleansing of walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows, etc.	28
	Cleansing of food stores required	5
	Walls and ceilings defective	12
	Floors defective	5
	Floor covering defective	6
	Cleansing of yards required	3
	Prevention of infestation recommended	1
24	Refuse removal required	2
	Refuse storage improvement needed	2
25	Temperature control of food by refrigeration, etc.	3
26	Mobile food vehicles defective	8
30	Protective overalls not provided	1

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Classification of Food Premises

The number of food premises in the Borough by type of business is as follows :—

Bakers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	17
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chemists' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fish—Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fish—Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	9
Greengrocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	42
Grocers' and General Shops	...	...	...	...	...	115
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sweetshops	...	...	...	...	...	43
Wines Shop/Beer Off	...	...	...	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hotel/Restaurant/Canteen	...	...	...	...	...	54
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	28
Preserved Food Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	5
School Meals Centres	...	...	...	...	...	23
Public Halls	...	...	...	...	...	25
Food Factories/Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies and Milk Depots	...	...	...	...	...	5
Park Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	9
						479

The classification is made on the principal trade of the premises.

Ice Cream

(a) Registered Premises

There are 178 premises in the Borough registered for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. These are :

- 1 registered for manufacture only.
- 16 registered for manufacture and sale.
- 161 registered for sale only.

In addition, nine exempted premises such as hotels, clubs, etc. are known to sell the product and several mobile vehicles frequent the Borough.

Of those registered for manufacture or manufacture and sale, only one is at present doing so, the article produced being heat treated.

A high proportion of the premises registered for sale handle only a pre-packed article, and supplies in the main come from 11 manufacturers. There is preference for pre-packed ice cream on the grounds of ease of handling. This greatly assists the hygienic control of the commodity.

All registered premises are inspected as a routine and for record purposes such inspections are listed under the principal trade of the premises concerned.

(b) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947/1952

163 samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following table :

Type	Number Taken	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Not Tested
From Manufacturers : Hot Mix ...	8	6	1	1	—	—
From Retailers	155	151	3	1	—	—
Total	163	157	4	2	—	—

The total of unsatisfactory samples is low, but nevertheless shows the necessity for constant vigilance. One sample of server rinsing water was also submitted and reported as satisfactory.

For the purpose of testing, the methylene blue reduction test recommended by the Laboratory Service is used. Grades one and two are normally considered satisfactory, grade three doubtful and grade four unsatisfactory.

Preserved Food

53 premises in the Borough are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods intended for sale.

The primary business of the premises registered is as follows :						
Butchers ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	24
Cooked meat shop	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouse ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocer ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fried fish shop ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Premises not in use at present			...	...	...	7

All food premises are subject to regular routine inspection and premises registered under Section 16(b) are inspected for the purpose of the Section at the time of such routine visits. Details of visits to these premises can be found in the Public Health Inspector's Annual Tabular Statement of visits.

Milk Supply

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The number of Milk Distributors registered in the Borough at 31st December, 1957, is as follows :

Resident in the Borough :

Distributors both producing and retailing	...	3
Distributors retailing only	... ..	6
Shopkeepers selling bottled milk only	... ..	28

Resident outside the Borough :

Distributors both producing and retailing	...	5
Distributors retailing only	... ..	10

The number of registered premises in use in the Borough is as under :

Bottled milk depots	... ..	2
Dairies	... ..	4

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

The following licences were granted for 1957 :

Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk—

Dealers' Licences :

(a) Pasteurised	... ..	31
(b) Sterilised	... ..	44

Supplementary Licences :

(a) Pasteurised	... ..	14
(b) Sterilised	13

Raw Milk—

Dealers' Licences—T.T.	17
Supplementary Licences—T.T.	12

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Control and Distribution of Milk

Since the 1st October, 1949, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has exercised control over the production of milk and the Local Authority has been responsible only for the supervision of treatment and distribution of milk.

This latter supervision is exercised by the inspection of premises, and frequent sampling of milk in the process of distribution to the customer.

During the year, inspections of premises were made, and 309 samples of milk were taken, of which 234 were taken for bacteriological examination and 76 for biological test (one being a phosphatase failure).

Details of sampling and results are shown in the following table :

Grade of Milk	Number of Samples	Results of Tests										T.B.		
		Phosphatase			Methylene Blue			Turbidity		Number of Samples	Neg.	Pos.	Inconclusive	
		Passed	Failed	Not Tested	Passed	Failed	Not Tested	Passed	Failed					
Pasteurised ...	173	171	2	—	161	12	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
T.T. Pasteurised	33	33	—	—	32	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
T.T. Raw ...	12	—	—	—	8	4	—	—	—	45	43	—	2 *	
Sterilised ...	16	—	—	—	16	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	
Ungraded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	27	2	1 *	
Total ...	234	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76	71	2	3 *	

*Guinea pig died from intercurrent infection.

Heat Treatment

As from the 1st November, 1952, the Borough became part of a specified area, and it is now obligatory for all milks sold to be of special designation standard, i.e., pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

The inspection of food is divided between (a) the inspection of retail shops and wholesale warehouses and (b) the inspection of meat in slaughter houses.

There is in operation a voluntary scheme of surrender, under which certificates are given by the inspector and the unsound food removed for destruction by incineration at the Corporation refuse destructor.

(a) Food found unfit at retail shops and warehouses

	lbs.	Number of tins
Raw meat	289	
Bacon	143	
Sausage and Meat Products ...	236½	
Fish	70	
Fats	½	
Cheese	122	
Dried Fruits	1½	
Flour and Cereals	39½	
Preserves	42	
Sweets, etc.	382	
Other Foods	11	
Tinned Foods	1,780½	1,574
	<u>3,117½</u>	<u>1,574</u>

Total : 1 ton, 7 cwts., 93½ lbs.

(b) Inspection at Slaughterhouses

The decontrol of home killed meat came into effect in July, 1954. The Council approved the issue of four slaughterhouse licences, but only one has been in regular use during the year.

All animals slaughtered were inspected, the total being :

- 25 Calves.
- 125 Pigs.
- 555 Sheep and Lambs.

Conditions rendering meat unfit for human consumption were found as follows :

Pigs

10 heads ...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	80 lbs.
3 mesenteries ...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	4½ lbs.
4 lungs ...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	4 lbs.
2 livers ...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	8 lbs.
1 lung ...	...	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1 lb.
1 liver ...	...	Parasitic ...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
1 liver ...	...	Cirrhosis	...	...	...	4 lbs.
1 heart ...	...	Pericarditis	...	...	...	½ lb.
Meat ...	...	T.B.	...	...	...	36 lbs.

Sheep and Lambs

12 livers ...	...	Parasitic ...	...	...	...	18 lbs.
1 liver ...	...	Peritonitis	...	...	...	1½ lbs.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART During year ending 31st December, 1957

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	—	—	25	555	125	—
Number inspected ...	—	—	25	555	125	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	13	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	—	—	—	2.3	3.2	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	10	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	8.0	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Food Poisoning

Three cases of food poisoning were reported during the year, all during the third quarter.

In two cases bacteriological examination of food samples and of specimens from the patients failed to disclose the causative organism. The remaining case was due to *Salmonella typhimurium*.

Bacteriological and Chemical Examination of Food

Bacteriological

The Public Health Laboratory Service (Director : Dr. B. R. Sandiford), is in Great Charles Street, Birmingham, and food is submitted to this laboratory as necessary.

The service has proved extremely valuable in connection with the examination of milks, ice cream, water and food submitted for suspected food poisoning organisms.

In all, 615 samples and specimens were submitted during the year for bacteriological and microscopical examination as detailed below :

Food :	Milk—Bacteriological	...	...	234
	Biological	...	...	75
	Ice Cream	...	...	163
	Water—Drinking	...	...	86
	Cream	...	...	1
	Condensed Milk	...	...	1
	Margarine	...	...	1
	Rinse Water	...	...	1
	Crab	...	...	1
	Jelly and Pineapple	...	...	1
	Prawns	...	...	2
Other Specimens :	Faeces	...	...	42
	Swimming Bath Water	...	...	2
	Stream Water	...	...	1
	Blood	...	...	2
	Throat Swabs	...	...	2
				<hr/> 615 <hr/>

Chemical

Analyses of samples of food and drugs taken under the Food and Drugs Act, are carried out by the Public Analysts for the Borough, Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, who carry out chemical examination of food, water, drugs, etc., as required by the Department.

Mr. F. G. D. Chalmers, of Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby comments on the year's work as follows :—

“The year's sampling covered a wide range of foodstuffs, ranging from flavouring and colourings to staple foods, and they were examined in considerable detail.

It is noteworthy that only one food sample out of 172 was unsatisfactory, a proportion which was considerably below the Warwickshire average. The unsatisfactory sample was a toffee of incorrect composition. Labelling errors noted in previous years were notably lacking in 1957, which is no doubt a tribute to the activities of the Health Department. All claims made on labels were scrutinised and checked, and found to be encouragingly accurate.

The average composition of the milk samples examined was 8.7% Solids-not-fat and 3.9% of fat, which is a little above the average.

Ice Cream also was of a high standard, and well above the minimum legal requirements. The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order is likely to be amended during 1958 ; there is every sign that vendors in the Borough will have no difficulty in reaching new standards.

The Colouring Matter in Food Regulations also are coming into effect by stages. They prescribe, among other things, a permitted list of colours for use in many foodstuffs. Foods examined in this connection have been found to conform already to the new regulations.

Sausages analyses were particularly encouraging. All Samples reached the expected standard, namely 65% of meat in a Pork Sausage and 50% in a Beef Sausage ; they also complied with the Preservatives Regulations.

The samples of spirits were found to comply not only with the requirements of The Food and Drugs Act, but also with those of the Merchandise Marks Act.

One drug sample out of eight was unsatisfactory, and appropriate action was taken.

All the samples examined were expected to reach a high standard of composition, of purity and freedom from contamination, and of fairness of any claims made. The fact that most of them did so reflects a high degree of responsible and willing co-operation by the vendors of food and drugs in the Borough. The year has set a standard which it may be difficult to equal, and is a proper matter for present pride.”

<i>Samples of</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
FOOD					
Almonds	—	1	1	1	—
Beer and Cider	—	3	3	3	—
Bitters	—	1	1	1	—
Bread	—	1	1	1	—
Butter	—	5	5	5	—
Carrageen	—	1	1	1	—
Cheese	—	1	1	1	—
Coffee	—	4	4	4	—
Colouring	—	3	3	3	—
Confectionery, various	—	3	3	3	—
Cream	—	3	3	3	—
Curry Powder	—	1	1	1	—
Dressing, Fish	—	1	1	1	—
Fat, Cooking	—	2	2	2	—
Fish Cakes	—	1	1	1	—
Flavouring	—	2	2	2	—
Flour	—	3	3	3	—
Fruit, Dried	—	1	1	1	—
Fruit, Tinned	—	1	1	1	—
Fruit Glacé	—	1	1	1	—
Gin	1	—	1	1	—
Ice Cream	—	9	9	9	—
Icing	—	1	1	1	—
Ham Rolls	—	1	1	1	—
Jams and Preserves	—	8	8	8	—
Jelly	—	4	4	4	—
Margarine	—	1	1	1	—
Marzipan	—	4	4	4	—
Meat Products	—	2	2	2	—
Milk	42	1	43	43	—
Mixtures, Baking	—	2	2	2	—
Mustard	—	1	1	1	—
Paste, Fish	—	4	4	4	—
Paste, Meat	—	2	2	2	—
Pepper	—	1	1	1	—
Peel	—	2	2	2	—
Pie, Meat	—	2	2	2	—
Pudding, Christmas	—	5	5	5	—
Rum	4	—	4	4	—
Soft Drinks, Wines	—	6	6	6	—
Sauces, Various	—	5	5	5	—
Sausage	—	12	12	12	—
Sugar	—	1	1	1	—
Sweets and Toffees	—	6	6	5	1
Tea	—	1	1	1	—
Vinegar	—	1	1	1	—
Whisky	3	—	3	3	—
Yoghourt	—	1	1	1	—
	50	122	172	171	1

<i>Samples of</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
DRUGS					
Capsules, Vit.	—	1	1	1	—
Foods, Medicinal	—	2	2	2	—
Mixtures, Medicinal	—	1	1	—	1
Oil, Cod Liver	—	3	3	3	—
Tablets	—	1	1	1	—
	50	130	180	178	2

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REPORTED UPON AS UNSATISFACTORY

<i>No.</i>	<i>Nature of Sample</i>	<i>Formal or Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Deficiency</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
22	Full Cream Brazil Nut Toffees ...	I.	Deficient of 90% butter fat.	Noted for formal sample. No further supplies have appeared for sale since,
28	Mixture, Medicinal ...	I.	Deficient Chloroform	Taken up with manufacturers. Stocks withdrawn.

SECTION F PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Deaths

During the year there were no deaths from Diphtheria, Typhoid, Paratyphoid Fever and Dysentery.

Diphtheria

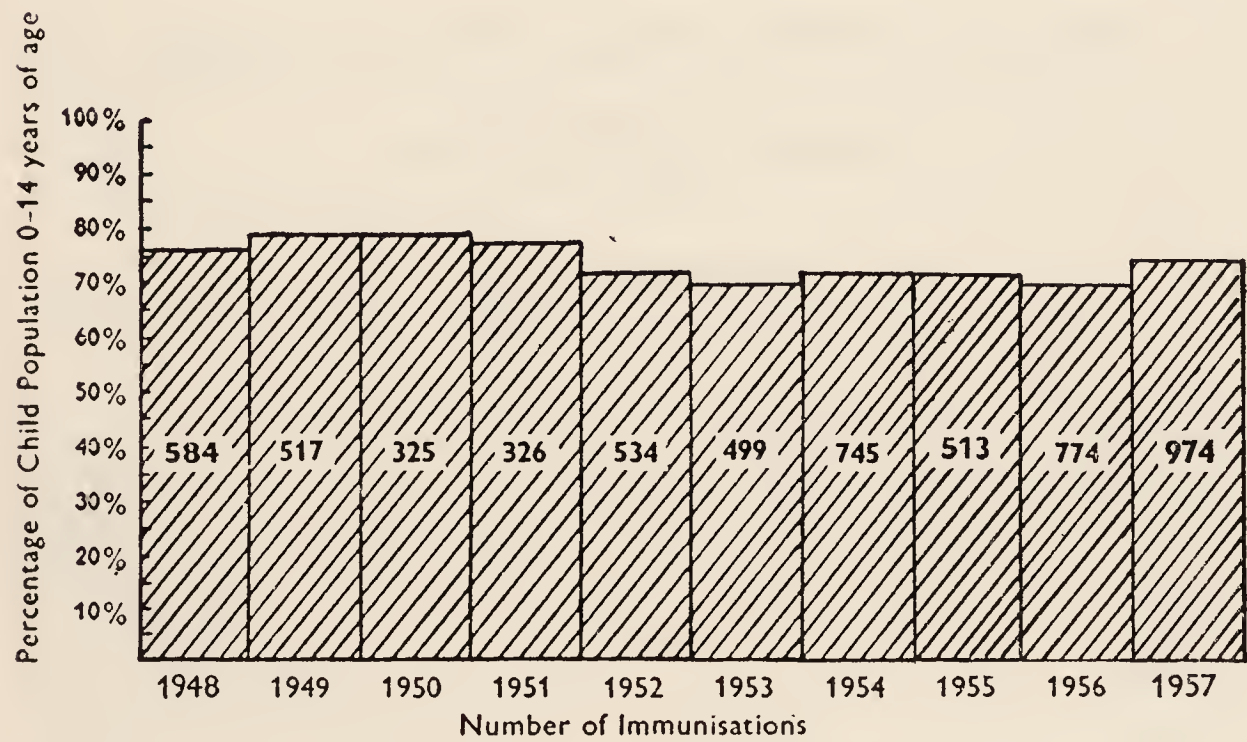
Once again there have been no cases of Diphtheria in the Borough during the year.

I have to report a further increase in the number of children immunised this year. During 1957, 974 children completed primary courses of immunisation, 960 in the age group 0–4 years and 14 in the age group 5–14 years. Every effort is being made by health education means and personal contact by visiting staff to encourage mothers to have their children immunised against both diphtheria and whooping cough. The procedure is now simplified by the use of a combined whooping cough–diphtheria prophylactic which is given in all clinics.

At the end of 1957, 75% of the child population 0-14 years had been immunised.

There must be no relaxation on the part of parents in presenting their children for immunisation however, since this state of immunity must be maintained at least. Sporadic cases of diphtheria still occur from time to time in Britain.

Diphtheria Immunisation
Complete Courses of Inoculation for the Past Ten Years
GRAPH No. 2



Scarlet Fever

The number of cases notified during the year showed a considerable decrease on 1956—a total of 10 cases being registered. This disease is still of a mild type and the admission of cases to hospital has not been encouraged.

Whooping Cough

During this year only 33 cases of whooping cough were notified, a decrease of 126 cases as compared with 1956, and no death occurred. 916 children were immunised during the year as against 747 in 1956.

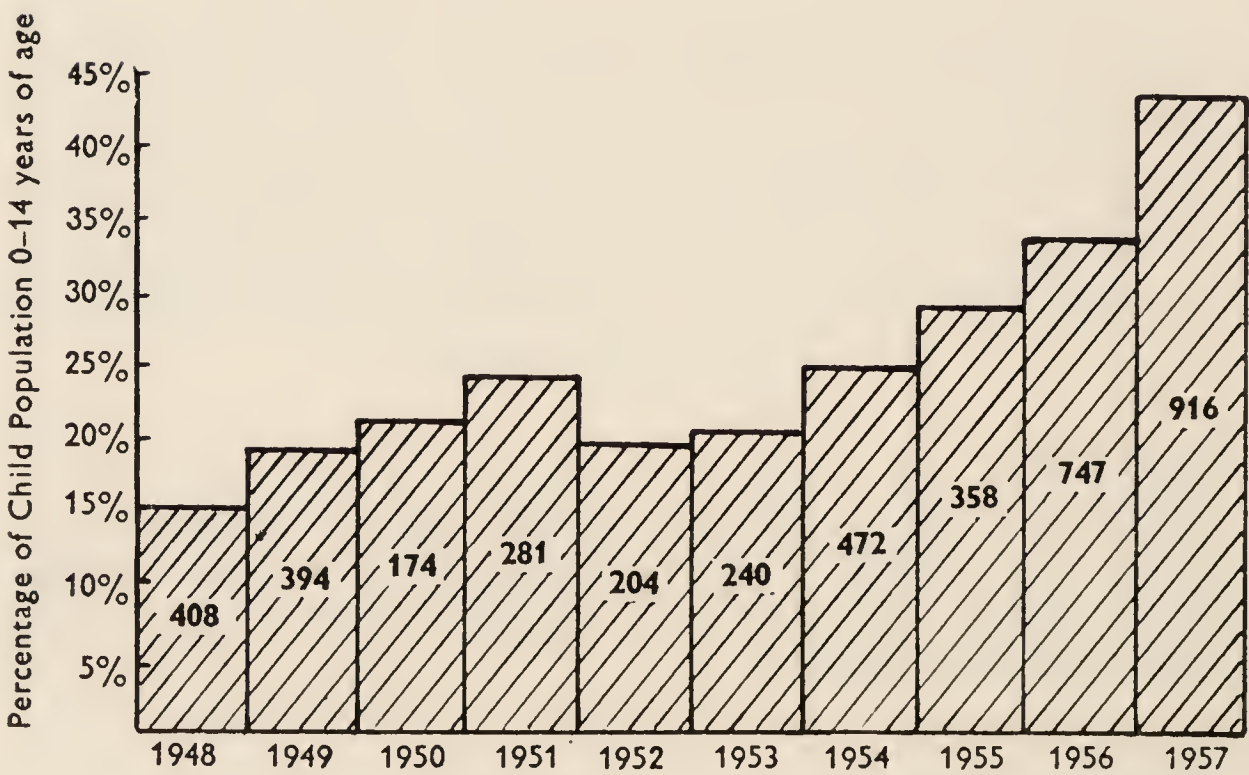
At the end of 1957 I am pleased to report that 44% of the child population 0-14 years of age have been immunised.

Although 33 cases of whooping cough were notified, there is no doubt that there must be a large number of cases which escape attention.

Whooping cough is a disease which does a tremendous amount of damage and this fact is not fully appreciated by all parents. It is just as essential that children should be immunised against Whooping cough as against such diseases as Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis.

Whooping Cough Immunisation
Number and Percentages of Cases Inoculated
for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 3



Pneumonia

There was a slight increase in the cases of pneumonia notified during the year, there being 20 as compared with 17 in 1956, and 14 deaths occurred the majority of which were in the age group 65 years and over.

Poliomyelitis

During 1957 one case of paralytic poliomyelitis was notified in a man aged 25 years. He was left with some paralysis of the left arm and shoulder but is now back at work.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year 2,297 children received vaccination against Poliomyelitis. Since the scheme began 2,626 children have been vaccinated. The waiting list at the end of the year was 4,223 and included some General Practitioners, Ambulance personnel and expectant mothers.

Dysentery

15 cases of dysentery were notified during the year, a decrease of 10 cases as compared with 1956.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid

There was one case of paratyphoid B notified during the year, and occurred in a girl of $4\frac{1}{2}$ years. Cultures taken in hospital were confirmed as Salmonella paratyphi B and belonged to phage type 1. Regular specimens were taken for six months after the child was discharged from hospital but there were no positive results.

Measles

There was a large increase in cases notified this year, there being a total of 840 as compared with only 22 cases for 1956. The majority occurred in the first half of the year. This is typical of the disease which has been regarded as showing biennial periodicity—epidemics recurring in alternate years. It is perhaps more correct however to regard the cycle of measles outbreaks as extending over two years with the major phase in one year and the minor phase in the following year.

Tuberculosis

This year there has been a slight drop in the number of notifications of tuberculosis, in spite of the fact that the population has increased considerably. The number of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified this year was 26, the same as in 1956, and two cases of non-respiratory were notified as against four in 1956, making a total of 28 cases as against 30 for last year.

During the year no death occurred from tuberculosis as compared with two from respiratory tuberculosis and two from the non-respiratory form in 1956.

In 1948 there were 143 on the register and at the end of 1957 there were 320 cases on the tuberculosis register, 286 being Pulmonary and 34 non-pulmonary.

The increase in the number of tuberculosis cases during these years on the Tuberculosis Register is to a large extent due to the growth of the town.

The largest number of new notifications during the year occurred in the 20 to 35 age group among females, and in the 45 to 65 age group among males. This is in accordance with the findings throughout the country and emphasises the need for particular vigilance in the detection of the disease in people in these age and sex groupings.

The number of B.C.G. vaccinations has increased, 83 children receiving B.C.G. vaccination, most of these vaccinations were done in Birmingham on school leavers attending schools in the city, but 28 were done in Sutton Coldfield through the Area Health Services.

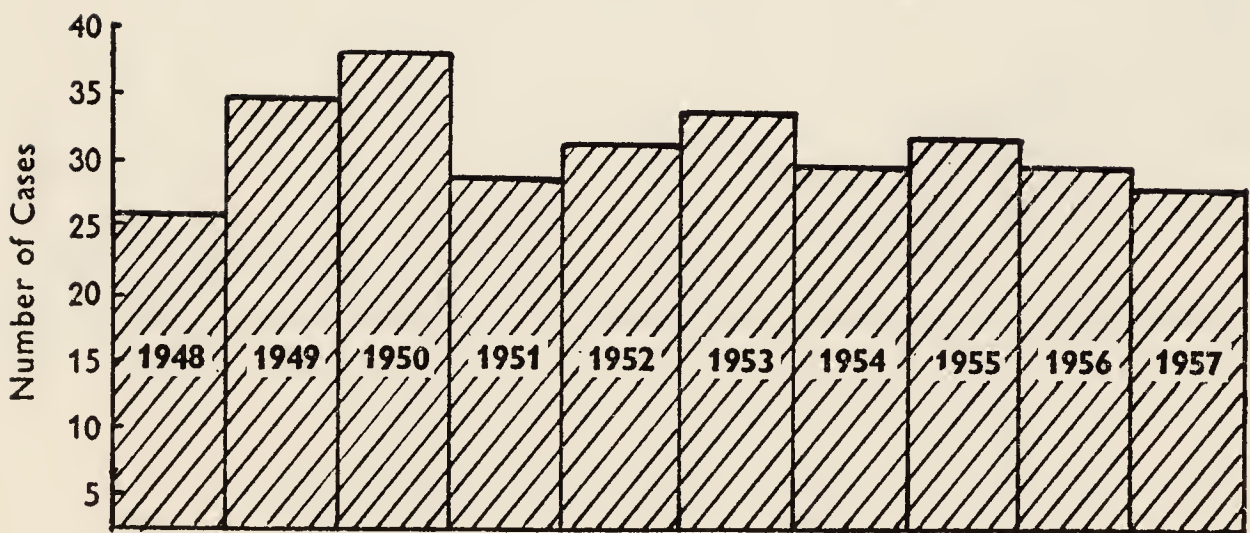
Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1957

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 year	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1– 5 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5–15 ...	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
15–25 ...	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
25–35 ...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
35–45 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45–55 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55–65 ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	13	13	1	1	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis
Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
New Cases for the Past Ten Years

GRAPH No. 4



Smallpox Vaccination

The vaccination of children under one year during 1957 was 86% of the live births during the twelve months ended June 1957.

During the year 807 children under one year were vaccinated.

Smallpox

In these days of rapid air travel, when a case of the disease may arrive in this country during the incubation period and before physical signs can be detected, it is necessary that the vaccination state of the population is kept high. The disease is still prevalent in many parts of Africa, South America and Asia, and all these areas may be reached by air in three days or less. It is therefore more than ever essential that parents should have their children vaccinated now.

Quarterly Notifications of Infectious Diseases

<i>Disease</i>	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Scarlet Fever	1	2	3	4	10
Whooping Cough	25	5	1	2	33
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	467	272	19	82	840
Pneumonia	8	—	2	10	20
Dysentery	4	5	4	2	15
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	4
Food Poisoning	—	—	3	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	11	6	4	5	26
„ Non-Respiratory	—	1	—	1	2
Totals	519	292	39	107	957

Analysis of Deaths

Notifiable Diseases

Diseases	CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR														DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR													
	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	All Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever ...	10	—	—	—	3	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Whooping Cough ...	33	1	2	1	5	3	18	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Measles ...	840	8	71	89	118	115	422	9	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pneumonia ...	20	2	—	—	1	—	3	—	2	2	1	8	1	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11		
Dysentery ...	15	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Paratyphoid Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Erysipelas ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Food Poisoning ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	26	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	3	9	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
„ Non-Respiratory	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Totals ...	957	14	73	92	127	121	449	17	9	21	7	23	4	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11		

